

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

102

MADOC, (HASTINGS CO., C.W.) SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1865.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

The South, as has so frequently happened before the war, when its cause appeared to be getting desperate, has had another respite from impending destruction, through the complete failure of a grand expedition against Wilmington. The force detached, with avowedly the fullest confidence of successfully accomplishing the object of its mission, was to close up the great port of entry for Confederate and British blockade runners, was one of the largest ever collected to operate against a particular point. It consisted of a fleet of upwards of 60 vessels of war, carrying more than 600 guns, under command of Rear-Admiral D. D. Porter, and with transports, tenders, &c., comprised nearly 150 vessels of all descriptions. Accompanying this great fleet was a co-operating land force of nearly 10,000 men under the command of Major-General B. F. Butler. It was rumoured last week that the expedition was furiously bombarding Fort Fisher, at the entrance of the port, had abandoned its enterprise, and retreated to Fortress Monroe; but the North was incredulous at first that a scheme prepared with so much care and at such vast cost, could have failed so ridiculously, and it was contended that there was "some mistake" about the report. All doubt, however, has been removed by the official account sent to the Secretary of the Navy by Admiral Porter, who commands by stating, under date of Dec. 26, that he was positive that he should have been able to present to the fort Fisher and the surrounding works, as a Christmas gift, but he was sorry to say that it was not taken. He next details the delay caused by weather, and the particulars of his attack on Fort Fisher, previous to the arrival of the troops, the first part of the programme—the attempt to blow up the powder magazines of the fort by blowing a ship loaded with 215 tons of powder as they could get to it—ended in disappointment, the explosion of the immense torpedo producing no effect. The fort was then shelled at the rate of 115 in a minute, at the commencement, completely ending the fire of the fort, by driving its garrison from the shelter of the bombproofs. This terrific fire kept up at a more moderate rate for five hours, the magazines being blown up, but no other very serious damage being done. The next day, the ships having arrived, 8,000 of the men were landed, the fire of the fleet, and a few got into the outworks of the fort, and the horse of an officer was killed just as he had arrived with the troops, which were captured.—Here ended the operations of Gen. Butler and Weitzel, after a thorough bombardment of Fort Fisher, were fully of opinion that the fort, by assault, as it was subject to extensive work by the fire of the fleet, was not worth anything but a respite.

fulfilment of the prophecy that by the 1st of May the Federals will possess the entire coast will probably be now somewhat indefinitely postponed.

The Richmond Whig considers the only point gained in the capture of Savannah is its moral effect, and that not much in a military point of view. It says:—"It was of no value to us whatever." The Whig expects Sherman to move on Richmond, and says "he is the very genius we desire to see, and he brings with him some thousands of those Western veterans whose metal we desire to test, for Grant has with him only some seven thousand veterans. The rest are only the vill-ruff of creation, to defeat whom is no honour."

There was severe cannonading in front of Petersburg last week, without result on either side. There are rumours in Richmond that Federal troops are crossing again to the north bank of the James river, and also that some troops had been landed at the White House; and on the other hand, the Federals report unusual commotion in the Confederate army, indicating early offensive operations in some direction, the nature of which is unknown. A deserter reports that the men are told Lee is contemplating movements within thirty days which will astonish the world.

"A lady on her way north from Richmond represents affairs in Richmond as more gloomy than ever. Declarations that the Confederate cause is hopeless are openly made among the people."

Some of the Richmond papers continue to charge the responsibility of the present situation of affairs upon President Davis and his flatterers; and the dissensions thereby caused are endangering the safety of the Confederacy. The extent of the prevalent ill-feeling may be judged from the following language employed by the Richmond Examiner, in approval of the proposition to make Lee generalissimo: "This is on the supposition that Mr. Davis is capable of an act so sane and wise, which may be greatly doubted."

The New York Evening Post says there is not the least foundation for the current reports that Lee is evacuating Richmond.

There was a rumour at Nashville on the 20th ult. that Thomas had attacked, routed and captured most of Hood's fragmentary army, but it needs confirmation.

Arrival of the Australasian.

The steamer Australasian, from Liverpool, 17th, via Queenstown, 18th, arrived at New York on the 20th ult.

A deputation from the Emancipation Society presented to Mr. Adams an address to Mr. Lincoln, congratulating him on his re-election as an evidence that the entire abolition of slavery is determined upon. Mr. Adams expressed his gratification at receiving the address, regarding it as a strong proof of friendliness to the United States. He said this and numerous other similar demonstrations would be received as strong proof that whatever may be the hostility of some to America, it is by no means shared by the greater number of the British people, and ought not to be presumed to be the national impression.

The Times' city article, alluding to the alleged re-opening of trading operations between the North and South, says:—"If trade is opened between the two sections, questions would of course arise as to the validity of the blockading regulations instituted for the purpose of keeping foreign nations from the enjoyment of similar intercourse."

C. Fortescue, Under Secretary of the colonies, speaking on American affairs. He was for neutrality, sympathized with the North, so long as they were struggling for a boundary to prevent slavery, but could not withhold his sympathies from the South for their gallant struggles.

Spain.—A ministerial crisis had resulted in the Marquis Pavia having formed a new cabinet, which the Queen refused to accept.

Isaiah was endeavouring to form a ministry and his success was doubtful.

A terrific hurricane in Liabou had been disastrous to small vessels.

The Spanish ministerial crisis continues.

It is said the St. Domingo question was the cause of the resignation of the Spanish ministry. They wished to abandon the island because of the difficulty of subjection, and because England has resolved to recognize the insurgents as belligerents. The Queen refused to adopt this course and the resignation ensued.

INDIA.—The Calcutta mails of the 23rd November, reached Suez on the 16th December.

The steamer Jeddah, with the Bombay mails, was passed on the Red Sea with two boilers disabled. Her mails were transferred to the Calcutta steamer.

A Shanghai telegram dated Nov. 9, says: China news is unsatisfactory. The presence of the rebels in the vicinity of Amoy stopped trade.

The Anglo-Franco-Chinese advices from Japan are favourable.

MILITIA RIOT NEAR QUEBEC.—Mr. Dick, the registrar of the county of Montmorenci, when about to proceed with balloting for men for the active militia force in the parish of Chateau Richer, some miles below Quebec, was prevented by a crowd, which with many noisy demonstrations declared that they would never allow him to ballot in that parish. The registrar and his assistant being alarmed at the threatening aspect of the crowd, many of whom had firearms in their possession, fled with the rolls. The news of the tumult, on reaching town, caused a good deal of excitement and indignation. The *Canadian* and the *Journal*, the principal French papers of Quebec, were very indignant, and declared the *Rouge* party to be blameable for inciting the people to riot. Three companies of volunteers and two guns of a field battery, under command of Lieut.-Col. De Salaberry, Deputy Adjutant General of Militia, were despatched to Chateau Richer, but the chief delinquents had fled to the woods on hearing the news of the approach of this force. The officials, then, under the protection of the military, proceeded with the militia ballot and completed it peaceably. Several persons were arrested for being concerned in the riot, and after examination, two men were taken as prisoners to Quebec, and the others released.—The *Leader* says: "It is easy to believe that the rioters do not represent the feeling of any considerable portion of the French population; but such conduct at that of which they were guilty is liable to be misinterpreted abroad to the disadvantage of the country."

Lately the New York Herald published a letter from its correspondent at Belize, stating that the Emperor Maximilian of Mexico had determined to annex British Honduras to his empire. The announcement was widely copied by the Canadian press. It turned out that the whole affair is one of those gross fabrications at which the Herald is such an adept.

Lord Mahon, in his History of England, gives an account of an attempt to fire London during the first American War of Independence. It was generally, but erroneously, thought that the attempt was a plot on the part of the revolted colonists. When Benjamin Franklin heard of it, he declared such a proceeding would be perfectly justifiable, and that if the English government invaded and ruined American towns, the Americans were right in trying to destroy English towns.

The New York Times, commenting upon the refusal of Mr. Bitterworth, and the simultaneous publication of President Davis's proclamation, acknowledging that Bailey acted as an agent of the Confederate Government in the "Take Erie Rail" case, says:—"It is known that if the actual treaty and statutory obligations which are supposed to govern the authorities on both sides, can be twisted so as to enable the parties at Toronto and the robbers at Washington to escape free, it will be done."

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ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE INSERTED ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS FOR CASH:—

Six lines, first insertion	0 50
Each subsequent insertion	0 25
Six to ten lines, first insertion	0 70
Each subsequent insertion	0 35
Above ten lines (per line) first insertion	0 07
Each subsequent insertion, per line	0 02

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For sale at WILSON'S MEDICAL HALL, Madoc, where Subscribers in and near the village may obtain their copies, and orders for the paper and advertisements will obligingly be received.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF MR. E. H. MURPHY BY POISON.—On Wednesday, of last week, Mr. E. H. Murphy, the only son of the late member for the Trent Division, accompanied by Mr. Rankin, son of Col. Rankin, and another friend named Scott, went into the store of Messrs. Sturton & Co., Quebec, and by invitation joined his friends in taking a medicinal tonic known as a "pick me up." While it was being prepared, the young man began "chaffing" the druggist's assistant, and so confused him that he mistook the bottle containing *digitalis* for that containing tincture of gentian. Mr. Murphy, after attending to some business, was attacked with weakness and spasms in the stomach, and fell in the street. He was removed to Russell's hotel, and medical aid obtained; but after suffering intensely for two hours, he expired in convulsions.—It was reported that Mr. Rankin had also died from the effects of the poison; but by great attendance his life was saved; and he and Mr. Scott are now nearly recovered.—The untimely fate of Mr. Murphy has called forth a general expression of regret for his loss and of sympathy with his suddenly bereaved relatives.



THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, JANUARY 7.

The Municipal Election.

The annual election of Five Councillors to represent the Municipality of Madoc was held in the Town Hall on Monday and Tuesday last. The proceedings commenced at ten o'clock on Monday morning, at which hour the Returning Officer, J. R. Ketcheson, Esq., announced his readiness to receive nominations. The friends of the respective candidates as usual struggled to game their own favourite first, thereby causing unnecessary confusion and delay. Finally, the names of the candidates were written on slips of paper, and the order in which they were to speak was determined by lot as follows:—

1. STEPHEN REED—nominated by E. D. O'Flynn, seconded by D. C. Brown. 2. W. H. TUMELTY—W. Bradshaw, S. Embury. 3. A. F. WOOD—Joseph Fitzgerald, G. W. Rose. 4. WILLIAM BLAIR—John Long, W. J. Allen. 5. JOHN TASSIE—James Moore, James Blair. 6. WILLIAM WARD—J. R. Moore, H. Blair. 7. JAMES O'HARA—L. Moon, J. Dale.

Mr. REED, on being called on to speak first, said he thought it would be out of place for him to commence. Mr. Wood was present, and could give them some explanation of the state of the finances of the township, and he would rather give way to him.

Mr. WOOD then came forward, and said it would perhaps be more fitting that he should make the first address, as he was more acquainted with the state of the finances of the township than the other members of the Council. He proceeded to give a full statement of the receipts and expenditures, commenting on the details as occasion required. From this it ap-

peared that the total receipts in the past year were 57,118.58, and the expenditures 57,092.95—leaving a balance of \$25.63.—Mr. W. next said there was another matter he wished to speak about, as their attention would naturally be called to it by the item for an extra audit. The matter had caused him a good deal of pain, as it was not pleasant to have his name coupled with charges of fraud and dishonesty. He might be proud and high-spirited, but he could not get over the pain that his name had been so bandied about and coupled with the "Seed Grain" account. He was glad if this feeling had passed away, and did not wish it to be re-uscitated. He did not mean to place himself in the box to be tried, but he would state the circumstances; and farther he did not wish to enter into the matter.—He then produced the special audit of Messrs. Green and Dunn, stating that fortunately for himself he had saved all the papers relating to the seed grain accounts, which were sufficient to satisfy the auditors that \$24 had been expended over the amount received; and that in consequence of their report, the Council had passed a resolution fully exonerating him from all blame. So far he felt he had done all that was necessary to clear himself, and with reference to the reports that had been in circulation and what had been said about himself, he now only wished to forget them.—With respect to his announcing his election at their hands, he had served them for eight years; and his fitness for office must be judged by his actions during that period.—He then declared himself opposed to the sale of liquor, as injurious to the best interests of the township, but said he had no desire to interfere with the rights of others or the liberty of the subject, and that he did not blame those who sold the liquor, but the township, for allowing the system of licensing the sale to continue. He did not think that those in favour of it would be able to obtain the prohibitory liquor law at present; but the matter would be discussed during the next year, and when the time for it came, he should vote for the suppression of the liquor traffic. (Clear, hear.) He had been in the habit, after election, of treating the electors, pretty liberally; but had determined not to do so again, as he thought the principle was wrong.—Again alluding to the financial position of the township, he said it would show he had endeavoured to fulfil his duties honestly and carefully—for it was second to none, in fact it was the first in the county. As one of the sixteen Councillors the township had had, he could say for himself he had done his best to bring this about; and for the other Councillors, he could say he never saw a man out of them but he could safely trust to do his business in the Council honestly.—Mr. WOOD concluded by thanking the electors for the many years of confidence they had reposed in him, and assured them that if again elected, he would serve them faithfully, honestly, and straightforwardly; and he asked them for their support if they thought him worthy of it.

Mr. REED said he appeared before the electors again as a candidate for the honour of being a municipal Councillor. In his first year of office he had tried to save expenses as much as possible—looking more strictly after the public income than he would have done if his own interests merely had been concerned. He considered it would be an honour if the electors should put such trust in him as to elect him again; and if they did so, he would do all in his power to deserve their support.

Mr. TUMELTY said that if elected, in looking after their interests he should endeavour to serve the electors faithfully as before. Considering the hard times, it was gratifying to find from the statement made by the Reeve that the finances of the township were in so good a condition. If they thought that from his past conduct he was deserving of support, he should be happy to receive it.

Mr. TASSIE, after expressing his satisfaction with the plain statement that had been made as to the finances of the township, said he had been asked to come forward as a candidate, and having done so, he should be happy to find the electors thought he was deserving of support.

Mr. WARD said he had consented to come forward as a candidate for Councillor at the request of his friends, and if elected, he would endeavour to serve the electors to their satisfaction and his own credit. He wished it to be distinctly understood that he did not intend to "treat" at the close of the poll. He objected to doing so on principle; and that it might not be supposed it was from meanness, he would let what might have been so spent in the hands of a treasurer, to devote to some benevolent purpose. (Applause.)

Mr. O'HARA said he felt much gratified many of his old acquaintances had that day come forward to him as to solicit him to come forward. He had served as a Councillor for those who were in office with him.

voured to levy taxes to meet every emergency, and the consequence of that policy had been that the township was in a good financial position, while other were in arrears. This proved that they had good Councillors, and he could endorse the sentiment that every Councillor he had sat with had acted for the good of the township and not for his own interest. He thought they had plenty of good material for Councillors; and as they could not vote for all, it was their privilege, right and duty to vote for whom they pleased. He would say that if they had confidence in him, he would serve them as well as any other man. He had many old friends there, and he thought they would give him a good show ahead. He left his case to their hands, and whatever suited them would suit him, whether he was or was not elected.

The Returning Officer then declared the polls open and the voting commenced.

At four o'clock on Tuesday afternoon the poll closed, with the following result:—

WOOD	240
REED	277
BLAIR	275
WARD	275
TASSIE	247
TUMELTY	143
O'HARA	111

The Returning Officer then declared A. F. WOOD, S. Reed, W. Blair, W. Ward, and J. Tassie duly elected.

The successful candidates were then called on to make short speeches, and briefly returned thanks. Mr. Tumelty, being also called on to speak, as one of the defeated, said he was not quite so elated as he won the election; but he thanked those who had supported him; and he thought the gentlemen elected would serve the municipality well.

Three hearty cheers were then given for "the Queen," the Returning Officer, and "the Successful Candidates," and the electors quickly dispersed.

THE BALLOT FOR THE MILITIA.

The Draft in the Township of Madoc.

The balloting for first-class service militia men has proceeded quietly throughout the Province, with the exception of a trifling disturbance near Quebec. A little ripple of excitement and curiosity was caused in Madoc on Friday evening last, when the War returned from Belleville with the list of the drafted from this township; but although a few women-kind were a little scared lest their sweethearts should speedily be converted "food for powder," the "drafted" take their very unconcernedly. Some of those whose names appear on the list are either dead, married, or moved; and we suppose their place must be supplied by a fresh draft. In Elzevir, single young men are so scarce, that some of the married men had to be drawn to make up the quota of that township.

Ackermann, Geo	Dcans, James
Allen, Robert	Donahue, John
Allen, William	Dougan, Robert
Allen, Thomas	Doyle, James
Armstrong, John	Eagleson, John
Arthur, William	Elliot, Thomas
Bacon, Benjamin	Ellis, George
Benn, George	Embury, Samuel W
Best, William	
Bonck, George	Farrell, Richard
Bradshaw, J.D.	Fitzgerald, J.
Bradshaw, Simon	Fitzpatrick
Bristol, Almond	
Bristol, Wellington	
Brown, Victor A	
Burrows, Robert	

Cam
Car

Kennedy, John
Kincaid, A

Irwin, John

Farvie, Jonas
Jones, M A

Lay, B M
Lecoman, Charles
Lemon, John
Levall, Robert
Love, Adam
Love, John

Mains, Thomas
Maybee, George
McBeath, A
McBeath, Laughlin
McCaffrey, S H
McCance, John
McCoy, Jesse
McGrigor, John
McKenzie, Laughlin
McKinnon, Alexander
McKnight, Robert
McLeann, Samuel
McLeod, Hugh
Miller, John
Mullett, Joseph

Nelson, Alexander
Nixon, John
Norton, Edward

O'Hara, John
O'Rourke, Farrell

Parks, Wm
Parks, Percival
Phillips, John A
Phillips, William
Tine, Joseph
Pollock, John
Pringle, Albert

Quinn, Thomas

Rawe, G D
Rennie, James
Richardson, John
Rider, Job
Robertson, John
Ross, S D
Roy, James

Sager, Archibald
Shepsell, Lewis
Sills, Robert
Smith, John
Snider, A
Speirs, James
St. Charles, Simon

Toll, Thomas

Vanklebeck, Peter
Vannorman, A.

Watson, John
Watson, Samuel
Weir, Mark
West, William
Woods, J PB

THE ENTERTAINMENT in the Good Templars' Hall, on Wednesday evening last, for the purpose of augmenting the funds for the erection of a new Church in this village, was very successful, the attendance being as large as the Hall could conveniently accommodate. The audience appeared much pleased with the musical performances of the Stirling Choir, and of Mr. and the Misses Orme of Belleville, as well as of Mr. Weirs, of this village, and Mr. J. Clougher, of Huntingdon. The piano was kindly loaned by Mrs. Norman. The Christmas Tree was liberally loaded with a great variety of fancy articles, which were distributed in a manner that gave satisfaction to all.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

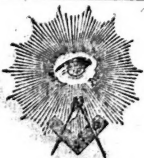
Volunteers! Turn Out!!

All Parties INDEBTED to A. WRIGHT, either by Note, or Otherwise, Call and Settle IMMEDIATELY, and SAVE COSTS.

NOTICE.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the NORTH HASTINGS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY will be held in the TOWN-HALL in HUNTINGDON on THURSDAY, the Third Week in JANUARY, 1865, commencing at the hour of ONE o'clock in the Afternoon.

JAMES J. RYAN, SECRETARY.
Huntingdon, January 2nd, 1865.



A. F. &

A. M.

Madoc Lodge, No. 48, G.R.C.

THE NEXT REGULAR COMMUNICATION of the ABOVE LODGE will be held in the HALL of the Lodge on TUESDAY EVENING, the 10th day of JANUARY. A Full Attendance is requested.

W M.

JAMES O'HARA, SECRETARY.

NOTICE.

December, 1864, a notice is requested his advertisement.

A SOIREE
WILL BE HELD IN THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
ALLEN SETTLEMENT,
On TUESDAY EVENING, 10th JAN. Next.
DOORS WILL BE OPENED AT SIX, AND CHAIR TAKEN AT HALF-PAST SIX O'CLOCK.

TICKETS, to be Purchased on Entering, 37½ Cents.
The Proceeds will go to the liquidating of the Debt. After TEA is served, Appropriate ADDRESSES will be delivered, and the CHORUS will alternate with suitable pieces of Music.

MADOC HOUSE.
WOOD & BREAKELL,
General Merchants,
Are paying the HIGHEST PRICE in CASH for any Quantity of
Wheat, Rye, Barley, Oats, and Peas.

FLOUR for Sale, fresh ground and in Barrels.
August 17, 1864.

FARM TO LET.
THE FARM, containing 200 acres, Lot No. 9, in the 9th Concession of Huntingdon, with extensive buildings, known as "The Old Francis Place."
Rent moderate.
This Farm is on the County gravel road from Belleville to MADOC, Five Miles from the latter place, where there is a cash market for produce. Apply to
ROMEO H. STEPHENS, Montreal, or
M. P. HAYES, Madoc.
April 16, 1864.

NORTH HASTINGS.
JOB PRINTING

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
Executed at the
"MERCURY"
OFFICE, MADOC,
(The Only Printing Establishment in the North Riding.)
With Neatness and Dispatch.

SUPPORT THE LOCAL INSTITUTIONS!!

North American Hotel, Madoc.

W. HUDGINS

RESPECTFULLY informs the Public that his new Hotel, erected on the site of the old stand, is now finished and completely furnished and ready for the reception of guests. THE NORTH AMERICAN HOTEL is quite equal in all its arrangements to any first class hotel in any village in Canada. A Good Yard and Stables attached to the premises. All the Liquors are of the very best quality and brands. *See Fine Ale and Porter always on draught.*

MEDICAL HALL.
DURHAM STREET, MADOC.
C. G. WILSON,
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

Best Spanish Sole Leather
ON HAND, CHEAP FOR CASH.

CASH Paid for HIDES and PELTS by
SYLVANUS MULLETT.

NOTICE.

ALL PATHMASTERS for the Year 1864 are hereby notified that their RETURNS must be made by MONDAY, the 10th of JANUARY, 1865, or they will render themselves liable to the PENALTIES of a breach of the Township By-Law.
By order of Council,
JOHN R. KETCHESON, T. Clerk.
Madoc, Dec. 19, 1864.

ve Municipal Electors of the Township of Madoc.

MEN.—Having been requested by many of you to come forward at the ensuing Municipal Election for the office of COUNCILLOR, I have, and respectfully ask for your interest and vote.

JOHN TASSIE.

\$1,000,000!!

ONE OF THE CHEAPEST PLACES TO BUY GOODS IS FRANKLIN'S. He has just received
850 Pairs of Boots and Shoes,
For Men, Ladies, Misses, Boys & Children.

FOR SCHOOL BOOKS, STATIONERY, AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS,
At Publishers' Prices, Call At
WILSON'S DRUG STORE,
DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

A. F. WOOD,
MARRIAGE LICENSE AGENT.
MADOC.

J. R. KETCHESON,
Township Clerk.
WILL be at the TOWN-HALL, MADOC, every SATURDAY, to attend to the business of the Township.

G. C. CALDWELL,
VETERINARY SURGEON,
MADOC.

MADOC GRIST MILL,
A. F. WOOD, Madoc.
A thoroughly Competent Miller in charge.

Mr. GREAM,
(Solicitor and Attorney of the Chancery and Law Courts of England)

Conveyancer, Coroner, &c.
JAMES FITZGERALD,
ATTORNEY AND CONVEYANCER
MADOC.

A. B. ROSS & BROTHER,
GENERAL MERCHANTS,
The Highest Price in Cash paid for Potash
A. B. ROSS. S. D. ROSS.

Dr. THWAITES,
Madoc.

C. E. RANKIN,
Provincial Land Surveyor,
Civil Engineer, &c.
Office, Hudgins' Hotel, Madoc.

FOR SALE, OR TO LET,
THE HOUSE on the North side of KELLAR'S BRIDGE. It is well adapted and situated for a
GENERAL STORE,
Being eight miles distant from the Village of Hastings, on the new Gravel Road to Tudor. Six Acres of Land attached. For TERMS, inquire at the Madoc Office.

MADOC MARKET PRICES.

SATURDAY, January 7, 1865.

ASHES	.....	\$4 30 per cwt.
BARLEY	.....	60 cents.
OATS	.....	40 cents.
WHEAT	.....	80 cents.
RYE	.....	50 cents.
PEAS	.....	55 cents.
HIDES	.....	\$3.
PORK	.....	\$12 per bbl.
BUTTER	.....	10d per lb.
EGGS	.....	6d.
HAY	.....	\$ 8 ton.

BELLEVILLE MARKETS.

Spring Wheat, 4s 0d per 3d. Rye, 3s 0d per 3d. Barley, 2s 0d per 3d. Oats, 2s 1d per 3d. Peas, 3s 0d per 3d. Potatoes, 1s 0d per 3d. Hay, 8s 0d per ton. Pork, 12s 0d per cwt. Butter, 10d per lb. Eggs, 6d per doz. Hides, 3s 0d per cwt. Turnips, 1s 0d per bushel. Wool, 1s 0d per lb.

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THE RAFFLES.—Judge Smith on Tuesday overruled the objection of the counsel for the defence and held that the Federal government could claim the rendition of the prisoners. Counsel for the defence then presented a petition signed by the prisoners asking the court to grant a postponement of thirty days in order to procure evidence from Richmond. Objection was made by counsel for the Crown and for the U. S. Government. Argument on the point was concluded on Wednesday, and a Judge of the court granted the petition, whereby the prisoners were remanded till the 10th of February.

AMERICAN WAR NEWS.—General Butler has been removed from his command of the army of the James river, and ordered to report in Lowell, Massachusetts.—Speaking of the visit of the Blairs to Richmond on a peace mission, the New York World editorially remarks:—"From the statements of our Washington correspondents, and the tone of the extracts from the Richmond press, it would seem as if it were barely possible that the war was substantially over. Evidently these peace negotiations have been going on longer, and have progressed further, than has been generally suspected. Until the result of the Blair mission is known there will be but little interest in the movements of our armies."



THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, JANUARY 14.

THE "FENIAN" MANIA.

The excitement which lately prevailed in the Western parts of the Province, in consequence of the supposed intended bloody designs of the Fenians, has begun to die away. The local papers which were the first to give currency to the rumours about the secret drillings of large bodies of men, and the burial of coffins full of pikes, are now announcing on good authority, that there is no real foundation for these alarming reports. We hope that this fact may tend to allay the undoubted alarm which has been felt by many in this neighborhood that the Irish Roman Catholic portion of the population are contemplating the midnight assassination of their Protestant neighbours. It is of course no news to our readers that in articles of this kind, and to provide against such a contingency, the people of the villages of Briagowater and Queensborough, in the Township of Blenheim, have during the past week organized Vigilance Committees and Home Guards for the protection of their families, being doubtless incited to take this step by the advice of Mr. Mills Flint, whose mental equilibrium appears

to have been completely capsize by all the idle gossip flying round on the subject. The course he has advised is considered by many as very unwise, and calculated to produce ill-will on the part of those who may feel themselves to be suspected on account of their religion. This may lead to counter-combinations on their side, with all the danger of future collisions. We have not forgotten the firing of the pikes in Toronto, and the outrage on the Orange Hall there; but it should be remembered that the Catholics generally have expressed their disapprobation of that affair, and avow that they have no sympathy with Fenianism. This we believe, for the simple reason that the Irish in Canada have settled here of their own free will, instead of going to the United States, which is the favourite resort of those who are disaffected towards the British Government; and whatever may be their opinions of the grievances of which the Catholics in Ireland may complain, here they are in all respects upon a footing of perfect equality with their neighbours. As a body they have much property at stake as any other portion of the community, and therefore can have no desire to encourage the victory of the men of obtaining the independence of Ireland by laying Canada waste in the first place—a proceeding which, supposing it to be success fully accomplished, would scarcely facilitate the recognition of their independence by the civilized nations of the world.

As for the rumours of impending danger from another "St. Bartholomew" massacre which disturb the rest of the timid, we think that just as much importance may be attached to them as to the tales that pikes have been lately deposited in new-made graves in the Catholic burial ground in this village.

School Section No 1.

The annual meeting of the above School section was held in the village School-house on Wednesday morning. J. H. Dunn, Esq., was called to the chair and Jas. Fitzgerald, Esq. was appointed Secretary.

The Trustees not being able to pres at the usual statements, in consequence of the Secretary and Treasurer of the Trustees, Mr. S. Reed, and the Schoolmaster, Mr. G. P. Frise, not having prepared their reports in due season, the only business transacted was the election of a Trustee in the place of Mr. Reed, whose term had expired; and the adoption of a resolution, moved by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Franklin, that the money for the necessary expenses of the School should be raised by a rate as before.

Dr. Elmer and Messrs. D. P. Lewis and G. D. Raw, having been nominated for Trustee, the show of hands resulted in the election of Mr. Lewis.

Mr. Wood also stated that at the beginning of the year the Trustees had employed Mr. Frise at a salary of \$150 a year for the whole School, and that his arrangement was continued till from some reason the school began to go down, when the Trustees thought it would be better to employ a female teacher, and have a separate school for the girls. Mr. Frise was paid for the year 200 years, and Mrs. Ross was engaged to do the school; and the attendance since that time, that the school has been taken in the female department of the school.

The other business which should have been presented at the meeting is contained in the following letter:—

MR. EDITOR.—I regret that certain circumstances over which I had no control, compelled with a general negligence, should have prevented the report for School Section No. 1, Madoc, being ready for the

annual meeting—and would thank you to give publicity to the following facts in connection with said school:—

Total number in attendance during the year. 141
Of these, 31 have attended under 20 days,
25 under 50, 50 under 100 days, 35 under 150 days.

Aggregate attendance for last half year 634
General average 59.8
Average for Female School since Nov. 23 4
Average for Male School for same time 4
The interest in the school has increased since we established the Female department, and we hope to see a still larger attendance during the winter. We would earnestly urge upon the school proprietors the importance of giving the school a hearty support, thereby materially assisting the Trustees in the discharge of their duties.

FINANCES ARE AS FOLLOWS:—
RECEIPTS.
Balance from last year \$32 00
County assessment 110 50
Government Grant 76 70
Received from Tax levied 440 80
Foreign Scholars 1 60
Total \$661 80

EXPENDITURES.
Paid to Teachers \$613 26
Paid for Repairs 6 17
Maps and Apparatus 3 50
Insurance 12 50
Other expenses 2 80
Balance on hand 23 41
Total \$661 80

Yours truly,
A. F. WOOD,
Trustee S. S. No. 1, MADOC.

List of Teachers

Who obtained Certificates from the North Hants Board of Public Instruction, January 5, 1865.

FIRST CLASS.
David Lowrey 190 George Bradley 186
H. H. Pollock 186

SECOND CLASS.
Matthew Sanderson 181 George W. Syne 144
James W. Rogers 178 Samuel Gardiner 144
John Courtney 151 Louisa Ketcheson 144

THIRD CLASS.
James M. Gardiner 134 Anthony J. Goggins 101
Almira McGinnion 133 Stephen E. Hogie 101
Lucetta Morlen 132 George P. Frise 101
John Maxwell 128 Agnes Stewart 101
Erasmus J. Badgely 128 Edward Eubury 101
Thomas Elgood 126 Annie J. Rutledge 101
Eliza Wright 116 Jane Porter 101
Johanna Daly 111 Permelia McGinnion 101
James Moore 110 Clarissa Geary 101
Wm P. McGuire 108

THE GOOD TEMPLARS' TEA-MEETING, on Friday evening last, was one of the most successful ever held in the village, and proved that the Temperance cause here is in a flourishing condition, and making progress. The audience appeared to enjoy both refreshments and the speeches, and were compensated for the absence of Mr. Flint and Mr. Henderson, were to have delivered addresses, by the unexpected presence of T. C. Wallbridge, Esq., and the assistance of the Stirling Brass Band. Speeches were made by the Chairman, J. Fitzgerald, Esq., Wood, Esq., Warden; Rev. Messrs. Sloan and Hargrave, and Messrs. G. P. Frise, E. D. O'Flynn, and J. Ross, Jr. The concluding address was made by the Rev. Mr. Smith, Miss O'Flynn, Mr. Weiss, and the Madoc Amateurs contributed acceptably, by singing between the speeches, to the general enjoyment of the evening.

SELLING LIQUOR WITHOUT A LICENSE.—Joseph Horton, of Hazard's Corners, was brought before A. F. Wood, W. H. Tumelty, and J. Speirs, Esqs., on Friday, the 6th inst., charged, on the complaint of John Dale, License Inspector, with the breach of a law

law, in selling liquor on his premises without license. The complaint, which was sworn to on the 1st of January, charged that the offence was committed by the defendant, on the 1st of January, 1865. The defendant, took the following exception: 1st. No date as to the offence charged: 2nd. It is required as to his client allowing the complaint to be made: 3rd. That the License Inspector, who is an acting Justice of the Peace, is not a Justice of the Peace. Evidence was then taken, when Wm. Bleakley testified that he drank liquor on Hayton's premises on the 1st of January, 1865, and that he was doing so. Wm. Leslie also deposed that he had purchased liquor of defendant on the 1st of January, 1865. On the 1st of January, 1865, defendant was arrested and was treated to a glass of liquor. Defendant was not present, and witness did not see it. The Bench decided that the charge was proved, and fined defendant \$2, and the further costs of 66, costs.

PAROCHIAL MISSIONS.—We would remind our readers that a meeting will be held, on behalf of the English Parochial Missions, at the Town Hall, Madoc, on Wednesday, January 19th, 1865. Several persons from this diocese will address the meeting, and be taken at 7 o'clock.

Partial Destruction of the City Hall, Kingston, by Fire.

KINGSTON, Jan. 11, 1865.

A fire took place in the City Hall last evening, resulting in a printing office in the lower part of the building. By the exertions of the firemen the building was saved, but the loss by the portion destroyed will amount to £10,000.

Despatch.—The fire in the City Hall building, was first discovered to be in the building on King Street, directly over the offices of Mr. Charles McMillan, and beneath the tower. It raged with great fury until it reached a portion which fronts on Ontario Street. It was effectually checked.

It was an insurance of \$11,000 in the "Provincial Commercial Union," "Western," "North British," "British American," companies.

The portion burned was occupied by the Common Library.

Members of Messrs. McMillan, Stridton & Co., Auctioneers; Lightfoot, job printer; D. Corrie, D. Flynn, fancy stores; E. Garvin, P. Campbell, station dealers; twenty-six butchers' stalls, with contents, including many of their books; and butchers' stalls and cellars, containing their stock, destroyed. The total loss of parties, not butchers or hucksters, is estimated at about \$10,000, with insurances amounting to about \$11,000.

John Hall, Commercial News Room, Editor, City Registry Office, Council Chambers, and Clerk and Chamberlain's Offices, were all ready for an emergency.

Arrival of the Moravian.

The Moravian arrived at Portland on the 10th. The news is generally unimportant. The Moravian Dix to pursue raiders into Canada had attracted attention, and the telegraphic despatches of the speculations of the English press, but as the order has been countermanded by the President, what they say is now of no consequence. They generally, however, disavow the idea of the English Government having entered into unfriendly relations with that of the States. The news had caused a slight depression in Canadian funds.

VERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NORTH HASTINGS PAROCHIAL SOCIETY will be held in the TOWN HALL, KINGSTON, on THURSDAY, the 19th of January, 1865, commencing at the hour of ONE o'clock.

JAMES J. RYAN, SECRETARY.

January, 20th, 1865.

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in Madoc Post Office up to the 1st of January, 1865.

Blakely, James
Bryant, C B
Brown, T
Best, Jno C
Bush, John
Fenn, R
Ferguson, R T

Howe, Win
Monroe, L
McLean, J
Macey, Charlotte
Pamer, James
Smith, Jno

A. F. WOOD, Postmaster.

Volunteers! Turn Out!!

ALL Parties INDEBTED to A. WRIGHT, either by Note, or Otherwise, must Call on 1st the IMMEDIATELY, and SAVE COSTS.

MADOC HOUSE.

WOOD & BREAKELL.

General Merchants,

Are Paying the HIGHEST PRICE in CASH for any Quantity of

Wheat, Rye, Barley, Oats, and Peas.

FLOUR for Sale, fresh ground and in Barrels.

August 17, 1864.

FARM TO LET.

THIS FARM, containing 200 acres, Lot No. 9, in the 9th Concession of Huntingdon, with extensive buildings, known as

"The Old French Place."

rent moderate.

This Farm is on the County gravel road from Belleville to MADOC, Five Miles from the latter place, where there is a cash market for produce. Apply to

ROBERT H. STEPHENS, Montreal, or

April 16, 1864.

NORTH HASTINGS.

JOB PRINTING

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION

Executed at the

"MERCURY"

OFFICE, MADOC.

(The Only Printing Establishment in the North Riding.)

With Neatness and Dispatch.

SUPPORT THE LOCAL INSTITUTIONS!!

North American Hotel, Madoc.

W. HUDGINS

RESPECTFULLY informs the Public that his new Hotel, he erected at the site of the old Hotel, is now completed and completely furnished and ready for the reception of guests. THE NORTH AMERICAN HOTEL is quite equal to and its arrangements to any first class hotel in any village in Canada. A Good Yard and Stables attached to the premises. All the Liquors are of the very best quality and brands. 25 Fine Ale and Porter always on draught.

MEDICAL HALL.

DERHAM STREET, MADOC.

C. G. WILSON,
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

Best Spanish Sole Leather
ON HAND, CHEAP FOR CASH.

CASH Paid for HIDES and PELTS by
SYLVANUS MULLETT.

NOTICE.

ALL PATHMASTERS for the Year 1861 are hereby notified that their RETURNS must be made by MONDAY, the 16th of JANUARY, 1865, or they will render themselves liable to the PENALTIES of a breach of the Township By-Law. By order of Council.
JOHN R. HARRIS, Clerk.

Madoc, Dec. 10, 1864.

\$1,000,000!!

ONE OF THE CHEAPEST PLACES TO BUY GOODS IS FRANKLIN'S. He has just received
850 Pairs of Boots and Shoes,
For Men, Ladies, Misses, Boys & Children.

FOR SCHOOL BOOKS, STATIONERY,
AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

At Publishers' Prices, Call At

WILSON'S DRUG STORE,
DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

A. F. WOOD,

MARRIAGE LICENSE AGENT,
MADOC.

J. R. KETCHESON,

Township Clerk.

Will be at the TOWN-HALL, MADOC, every SATURDAY, to attend to the business of the Township.

G. C. CALDWELL,
VETERINARY SURGEON,
MADOC.

MADOC GRIST MILL,

A. F. WOOD, Madoc.

A thoroughly Competent Miller in charge.

MR. GREAM,

(Solicitor and Attorney of the Chancery and Law Courts of England)

Conveyancer, Coroner, &c.

JAMES FITZGERALD,

ATTORNEY AND CONVEYANCER
MADOC.

A. B. ROSS & BROTHER,
GENERAL MERCHANTS,

The Highest Price in Cash paid for FLOUR
A. B. ROSS. S. D. ROSS.

DR. THWAITES,
Madoc.

C. E. RANKIN,

Provincial Land Surveyor,
Civil Engineer, &c.

Office, Hudgins' Hotel, Madoc.

FOR SALE, OR TO LET,

THE HOUSE on the North side of KELLAR'S BRIDGE:

It is well adapted and situated for a

GENERAL STORE,

Being eight miles distant from the Village of Hastings, on the new Gravel Road to Tudor. Six Acres of Land attached.

For TERMS, inquire at the MERCURY Office.

MADOC MARKET PRICES.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1865.

ASHES	44 50 p cwt.
BARLEY	60 cents.
OATS	45 cents.
WHEAT	90 cents.
RYE	50 cents.
PEAS	60 cents.
HIDES	\$2.
PORK	\$12 p cwt.
BUTTER	6d p lb.
EGGS	6d.
HAY	\$ 2 per cwt.

BELLEVILLE MARKETS.

Spring Wheat, 3s 4d 4s 6d. Rye, 3s 0d 4s 0d. Oats, 2s 6d 2s 7d. Potatoes, 1s 10d 2s 0d. Beans, 1s 10d 2s 0d. Pork, 12s 0d 12s 6d. Butter, 12s 0d 12s 6d. Eggs, 6d 6d. Hay, 2s 0d 2s 6d. Tallow, 1s 0d 1s 6d. Wood, 1s 0d 1s 6d.

AN APOLOGUE.

Twice eight o'clock, and near the fire
My ruddy little boy was seated,
And with the titles of a sire
My ears expected to be greeted;
But vain the thought: by sleep oppress'd,
No father there the child deserv'd.
His head reclined upon his breast,
Or, nodding, rolled from side to side.

"Let this young rogue be sent to bed!"
More scarce had time to say,
When the poor wretch raised his head
To beg that he might longer stay.
Refused, away his steps he bent
With tearful eye and aching heart.
But claim'd his play things ere he went,
And took up stairs his horse and cart.

Still for delay, though oft denied,
He pleaded, wildly, that the boy,
Though past his usual hour, he cried
At being sent to bed so soon.
"I stare," he said, his grief I shared;
Unmoved who sees his offspring weep?
Of soothing him I had despair'd;
While all his cares were lost in sleep.

"This poor infant!" I exclaimed,
The father blubber'd I can see,
In all that he so lately bled,
The follies and the tears of men.
The vain regret, the anguish, grief,
Which thou hast known when sent to bed,
Portend of even the life grief,
When doom'd to slumber with the dead.

THE DRY WELL.
(Concluded.)

I lay for a long time, for hours, benumbed and stupefied by the constant succession of these sad thoughts; and then milder feelings rose in my heart. While there was life, as the old proverb went, hope had no right to die. Many a man had been at as bad a pass, and had struggled out, and lived to end his days in honoured old age, with loving hands to smooth his pillow. I would not perish without an effort. Perhaps, like Aristomenes in his cavern, I might find some means of egress, however painful the task; so I began to grope on hands and knees about the vault, seeking for the lantern. The glass, I knew, was in shivers; but the candle, a long one, as I remembered, might be intact. I had the means of relighting it, for had I not in my pocket the revolver, which James Marshall had lent me?

I had lost my bearings, I suppose, for I groped about for some time without any result but that of getting my fingers pricked by thorns and bruised by pebbles. Then I touched the slimy back of some reptile, toad, snake, or lizard, I do not know which, and I recoiled from it as it shrunk from my grasp; and presently my fingers closed on something like a human hand, cold, bony, fleshless, the hand of a skeleton, and I uttered a cry of sheer terror, and tore my hand away, springing to my feet, and half fancying that the bony hand was trying to detain mine in its unnatural grip. Then I hastily pulled out the revolver, and withdrawing the bullets, put some felt from my crushed hat close to the chambers, an old letter on the felt, and some dry thorny branches above all. Then I snatched off the pistol, carefully blowing up the ignited under into a blaze, and relit the candle, which was not much injured, and which had rolled a yard or more from where the stone fell.

What I then saw was an ugly sight, not calculated to calm the nerves of one in my position. The dead bushes and brushwood, disarranged by me as I groped about the vault, gave to view the upper part of a ghastly human skeleton, the head alone being wanting, while the bony right arm and hand were stiffly extended towards me—lambent the hand that I had unwittingly grasped. The other features of the vault—the reptiles, harmless but repulsive companions, shuffling away to crevices and fissures; the heaps of ruin; the stone that I had so narrowly escaped; the leather valise that had slipped from the rope—were seen at a glance. Further search showed, alas! no means of emerging from the living tomb to which I had been so remorselessly consigned. Some other objects I found, but they were of no importance; a broken axe, a hog, some scraps of Aztec pottery, and several spear-heads of copper and the sharp brittle iron, no doubt the work of Aztec hands. There was no water, save in one hole, where a little green and stagnant pool, left behind by last year's rainy season, lay. And to scale the smooth wall of the well would have been hopeless to the most practised climber.

My only prospect of a release lay in the feeble chance of a rescue. Some one from above, attracted by my signals of distress, might— But how could I notify my forlorn condition? I was cut off from my species. My voice was hoarse already, and the muscles of my throat strained and stiff, with use-

less attempts to make myself heard. And how few might come, from year's end to year's end, to that desolate spot! No, I must die, save for a miracle—die in darkness, in famine, in all the torments of thirst! Perhaps my reason would give way. How could I tell? I had read of shipwrecked sailors who died mad, taring their own flesh, wild with parching thirst. And in a little while my candle would be burned down, and I should be left in everlasting darkness, alone, lost to the world, to lie down and die beside the bleaching skeleton of the wretch whose bones were so near me.

Suddenly I bethought me of the valise. It might contain food—an unlikely chance, but a possible one. A little dried fruit, a box of French sweetmeats or Spanish chocolate, might prolong my life for days and weeks, and give more time for my friends to scour the country. I forced the lock with my pocket-knife, and hastily rummaged over the contents. No food, not so much as a morsel of anything to sustain life, nothing but money—trash, in that place—a few clothes—some letters, and a quantity of papers, books, scrip, and so forth. What was this? It was an old envelope, faded and torn, addressed to M. Etienne L. place. For a moment, I forgot my own danger. I tore open one of the bonds. It contained Mr. Stacy's name, often repeated. Another, it was docketed in the banker's own hand. Yes, they were all there; the missing papers, whose loss had caused Mr. Stacy's ruin and arrest. No doubt the valise was that of Laplace, the fugitive clerk; and where was he? The skeleton—the headless skeleton! I glanced half fearfully at it, as if I expected to see the dead man rise to claim the property before me. Yes, yes, it was likely enough that the runaway had been murdered by his vile associates. There is seldom honour among thieves. The skeleton was probably his. I held the papers in my hands. I could clear Mr. Stacy's character, and Rose, the very idea of her happiness, she who loved me already, how would she receive her father's preserver!

But of what use was it to say all this? I was in a trap, and should never, perhaps, be seen by human eye again. The secret would perish with me. Mr. Stacy would be crushed by persecution; and Rose, poor and orphaned, would deem that even I had heartlessly deserted her in her need. In a little while, the candle would be spent.

I carefully replaced the papers in the trunk, blew out the candle, and sat down with my back to the wall, to wait. I had a hard struggle before I could give up the light—there was company and comfort in the light—but I must husband my resources, poor as they were, and I determined to keep the candle for a future occasion. I could think in the dark. I thought, and thought, until my brain was overtaxed, and then I slept, and woke up, cramped and chilled, and walked to and fro, fierce and restless as a wild beast caged and furnished with dire pains of hunger beginning to rack me. Then I sat down again, and tried to sleep, but could not. Presently I felt the gnawing of hunger more keenly than before, and I relit the candle, and made a desperate attempt by sticking the blade of my clasp-knife, and that of one of the Mexican spear-heads, into the interstices of the brickwork, to climb the sides of the well. I got up, with much toil, some ten feet, and then the smooth strong masonry baffled me; my knife snapped, and I fell, and was bruised and half-stunned. A very weak and discouraged, I lay still, waiting for death. A very long time passed, and then there was a faint sound, and then the sound increased, and as I lifted my dim eyes, I saw a smoky glare of torchlight, and heard the well-known creak of the windlass. The rope was coming down, with a living lead. My heart gave a leap, and then hope died away. I had remembered the robbers. No doubt they had returned; they came in quest of the buried treasure; they would miss it, but find me, and put me to a cruel death in their malice and rage. Well—better so than starve. The windlass worked on, and the gleam of the torch came nearer, and nearer yet, and then a voice said, in English, and in well-remembered accents: "Hurrah! I saw him move! O thank God, the poor fellow is alive—alive, after all!"

Then I faintly, came to myself, and saw James Marshall and another friend standing over me, fainting again, and was in bed in my own room in Monterey when I regained my consciousness. The rest of the story may be told in few words. The false steward, old Gil Lopez, who resided in the abandoned house of a ruined proprietor, supposed to be dead in exile, turned out to have been a sort of chief of the most villainous gang of highwaymen in the district, acting also as its receiver and spy, having two sons with the band. It was to him that the runaway clerk, Laplace, had fled for concealment and a safe-conduct to the coast. But the Mexicans are treacherous. The bandits had murdered Laplace, sev-

ered his head from his body, burying it in a sepulchral place, and tossed his remains into the well, retaining the papers for future profit. The dry well served the hiding-place for their valuable booty; but a long foray on the part of the band, one of number had been captured, and had betrayed the secret. The old man's sons, unable to come to the hacienda, had sent an Indian boy to their father, who withdrew the treasure before the arrival of police.

To this boy I owed my safety. He had been posed to be asleep, wearied out by his long march, but his curiosity had been excited by old Gil's goings forth in my company, and he had followed, and from the thicket all that had occurred. The second, after cutting away the rope of the well, to make the well appear neglected, had procured mules and a cart from some neighbour, and had, off with the treasure, accompanied by his wife, to a place of rendezvous appointed by his accomplice. But the Indian boy—who had led a dog's life in service of the robbers—resolved to desert them, to earn reward and pardon by telling all. He slipped away, therefore, on the road, and after a long march reached Monterey, and being directed to Mr. Stacy's house, found the whole community in a moment respecting his disappearance. My horse, the saddle, turned and bridle broken, had been five miles off, and all suspected foul play. The Indian, however, put them on the true scent, and I lost no time in effecting my rescue. I have only to add, that Mr. Stacy was fully relieved from all embarrassments by the recovery of the papers; Rose has for some years been my wife; and thus have lived, happy and prosperous, in Monterey, where I am now a junior partner in the house of Marshall Brothers. Gil Lopez and his amiable sort were never, to my knowledge, heard of again; the gang, having made the state too hot to bask in, migrate northwards, where it is to be hoped they may one day pay the penalty of their crimes.

VARIETIES.

Love and law are things we had better keep if we can. They both lead to strong attachments. Why is a sermon delivered on board a ship's neck-lace?—Because it's a deck-oration.

A London lady advertises for a husband with the habit of washing himself.

An inveterate old bachelor says ships are "she" because they always keep a man on board.

Blair Athol, the greatest English racer, was sold recently to Mr. Jackson, of Fairfield, Eng., for a thousand five hundred guineas, by far the largest given in modern times for a race-horse.

Some one was praising our public school, Charles Landseer, and said, "All our best men are public-school men. Look at our poets. The Byron, he was a Harrow boy."—"Yes," interposed Landseer, "there's Burns, he was a ploughboy."

A browbeating counsel asked a witness how far he had been from a certain place. "Just four feet, and six inches," was the reply. "How do you get to be so exact, my friend?"—"Because I expected some fool or other would ask me, and so I measured it."

In the time of Sir John Macpherson's governorship of one of our colonies, most of his staff consisted of Scotch gentlemen, whose names began with S. One of the aides-de-camp used to call the Governor House Alma's; "for," said he, "if you stand in the middle of the court and call Mac, you will have had popped out of every window."

A CANDID LAWYER.—"Do you think I'll get the donee?" said a culprit to his counsel. "Don't think you will," replied the other. "For two men on the jury who are opposed to hanging."

A SHREW GUESS.—At a parish school examination near Swansea lately, when the question was "Why did the children of Israel make a golden calf?" a sharp little fellow replied, "Because they were gold enough to make a bull."

DRINKING CUSTOMS.—An American minister had been reproving one of his elders for overindulgence observed a cow go down to a stream, to drink, and then turn away. "There," said he, "offending elder, is an example for you; the cow quenched its thirst, and has retired."—"Yes," replied the elder, "that is very true. But suppose the cow had come down to the other side of the stream and had said, 'Here's to you, there's no saying how they might have gone on.'"

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, (HASTINGS CO., C.W.) SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1865.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

Another expedition has been dispatched against the failure of the first having been the premature publication by the press of the intended destination, which enabled the Confederates to reinforce their reduced garrisons. More caution has been observed this time. The second expedition had probably commenced before the public had any intimation that such was to be so speedily renewed. Some time must necessarily elapse before the success of the new movement can be ascertained.—Towards the end of last week the Tribune's special Washington correspondent gave it as the opinion of the land and at peace negotiations that a cessation of the preliminary to formal negotiations, would take place within ten days. The hand of a new peace-maker was, however, at once "to fall heavily on Davis's obstinacy."—This perhaps refers to the Wilmington attempt, which it is mysteriously said is not really under the direction of Gen. Terry, and is ostensibly at the head of the land forces, but some more distinguished officer.

Notwithstanding this alleged possible cessation of reports from other quarters show that both are preparing for the continuance of the struggle. Gen. Sherman's forces have occupied South Carolina, on their way to Charleston. A refugee from Richmond says the report is despatched troops to meet Sherman is that the secret of all military movements is so well kept, that it was not known in the Confederate army what troops nor what number had been sent, though they started three weeks since.

—previously reported killed—is now said to be recruiting a large force at Paris, Tennessee. A number of his men are hovering around their camps in Tennessee and Kentucky, conscripting, robbing and murdering Union men. Rumours prevail that he has been organized to attack Paducah, Kentucky. Gen. Thomas and staff were recently in that city. His repulse of Hood has not restored peace to that section of the Union, for the Confederates of Kentucky is represented by the Louisville press as most deplorable. It is without adequate protection, and the larger portion of the territory is overrun by marauders, and given up to robbery and despoliation. Life is insecure, society is disorganized, and trade destroyed.

Confederates, it is rumoured, have moved from the Shenandoah valley to Strasburg, but it is not in sufficient strength to annoy Sheridan. On the 11th inst., the Federal garrison at Beverly, Virginia, was attacked by a Confederate force. Gen. Rosser. The town and a large portion of the garrison were captured.

Longer the war continues, the clearer it becomes beyond the immediate vicinity of the few cities it has captured, the North is making no progress towards restoring peace and prosperity to the South. It has overrun; and this unsatisfactory result has cost the expenditure it has incurred, may be the original promoters of the war sigh for a cessation on any other terms than the acknowledgment of the independence of the Confederacy. President Lincoln himself seems to have changed his mind since he sent his message to Congress at the commencement of the session, and

to be willing to try persuasion rather than force to bring about a restoration of peace. The Hon. Montgomery Blair, and Gen. Singleton, of Illinois, have accordingly gone to Richmond with his approval to open peace negotiations. Mr. Blair's instructions are said to embrace the three following propositions:—

1st. Amnesty to all, no matter what they may have done since the war began.
2nd. The Constitution as it is, and the Union as it was: the South to return to the Union with all the rights and privileges it held before any of the States seceded.
3rd. The total abolition of slavery. From this point the President will not retract one iota. He does not insist upon immediate abolition, but he does recommend that measures be taken to secure its extinction within a reasonable length of time.

The opinions of the New York papers are divided as to the propriety of Mr. Blair's mission, and the good likely to result from it—most of them being in favour of it; but the N. Y. Times objects that to admit that President Davis has the right to make peace is to admit his rightful power to make war, which would be a substantial recognition of the Confederacy.—Suspicious are entertained by some, both North and South, that Mr. Blair's terms will be rejected, and that the indignation thereby created will tend to reconcile the people of the North to the existing draft.—The Washington correspondent of the New York News, asserts, however, "on good authority" that the cause of sending Mr. Blair to Richmond was that Mr. Seward had been notified that England and France would recognize the South after the 4th of March next, provided in the meantime that the South, in arming its able-bodied slaves, agree to emancipate them.—Without attaching much importance to this rumour, it may be easily believed it has produced a certain effect, and that neither Mr. Seward nor the North, generally, much relish the possibility of being called upon to make good their often repeated threat to declare war upon any nation that should recognize the South. Another cause is at work to render the prospect of peace acceptable to such an extent, or otherwise proved worthless and unreliable, that there is a prospect that in future every man drafted will be compelled to serve. The supply of efficient substitutes being exhausted, the further prosecution of the war will rapidly become less and less popular.—It is said that several prominent Southern gentlemen, among them Vice-President Stephens, have been delegated by the Confederate Congress to visit Washington, with propositions for peace, but their arrival there has not yet been announced. Senator Foote, of Mississippi, who has lately denounced the incompetent manner in which the war has been managed through President Davis' interference, resigned his seat in Congress, and was proceeding to Washington on a peace mission of his own, when he was arrested, and is supposed to be confined by order of the Confederate authorities. Hence it is conjectured that there is little probability of President Lincoln's peace propositions being at once complied with.

The New York Herald endeavours to convince the American public that the English press and people were so awed and terrified when they heard of the successes of Generals Sherman and Thomas, that they looked tamely on Gen. Dix's invasion order. Indeed, judging from the tone of the London Times, it thinks it appears as if it were impossible even to kick England into a war with the American Republic.—It will be seen, however, from the following extract from the Times of the 31st ult., that the Herald is mistaken in thinking that Canada might be invaded with impunity:—

"In the present state of Northern feeling there is too much reason to apprehend some outrage which may render a rupture inevitable. Americans neither appreciate the strength of England nor understand the unanimity with which war will be prosecuted if

forced upon a reluctant government and nation. The first result of war would be the immediate and irrevocable establishment of Southern independence."

The business of kidnapping British subjects on the Eastern Townships frontier by Federal agents was never so brisk as so impudently carried on as now. Houses are broken open, men taken from their beds, and carried by force to the States to be sold as substitutes; and there is no redress. The government has withdrawn the volunteer force from that section, and Yankee ruffians have it all their own way. The people are talking of taking up arms in their own defence, and troublesome times are expected.

THE DEFENCE OF OUR LAKES.—The United Service Gazette received by the last mail says:—"The Federal government having given notice, in accordance with the treaty, of their intention of increasing their force on the boundary lakes between Canada and the United States, it is generally reported that Captain Sherard Osborn will be placed in command of the British force which will of necessity be re-established."

THE REASON WHY MONEY IS SCARCE IN CANADA.

The *Leader*, in its annual review of the trade of Toronto for 1864, explains the cause of the monetary pressure from which the country is now suffering, and the remedy thereof, as follows:—

"This state of things cannot be accounted for by a depression of manufacturing or agricultural industry. True, the wheat crop was a light one, and prices are low, but there has been a fair yield of almost all other articles of farm produce, and prices are quite remunerative. There is an incessant demand for barley, peas, oats, butter, cheese, pork, wool, &c., at paying prices, and the extent to which these articles are now produced renders them in a great measure a substitute for wheat, so far as the cash resources of the country are concerned. The farmers are, upon the whole, well off and doing pretty well. The fact is, the capital of the banks is loaned out of the country, and our industrial enterprises are left to suffer because these institutions can make more money elsewhere. The enormous imports at Montreal, which are several millions in excess of the requirements of the country this year, have swallowed up a great deal of capital in the way of foreign exchange, and the embarrassed holders of these goods, together with lumber merchants, and others, have to rely upon the banks for protection from their creditors, and the banks in turn are willing to serve the importers—their heaviest customers—to the exclusion of everybody else. * * * The capital of the country is, therefore, to a great extent, locked up in merchandise in Montreal, to the serious inconvenience of the rest of the country. * * * We are satisfied that matters will never be better with us so long as the banking capital of the country is controlled at Montreal as at present. If Upper Canada, as is alleged, represents two-thirds of the wealth of the country and contributes two-thirds of the revenue, why should it control only about one-third of the banking capital? The establishment of banks in every local directorship would no doubt tend to rectify this unsatisfactory aspect of our financial institutions; we have the wealth, and all it requires is organization in order to afford the necessary facilities for the development of our local resources and the extension of our local trade."

In 1863 no less than six hundred and forty millions of letters passed through the British post office department, an increase of two hundred millions during the last ten years. In London alone a hundred and sixty millions of letters are now annually distributed, which is an increase of more than half during the last decade. Making an allowance for the increase of population, each person now receives twenty-two letters, instead of fifteen, as formerly.

A Quebec Volunteer, writing from Windsor to a friend, says "We had an alarm last night, but it amounted to nothing. I should not be surprised if we had a brush with some of the raiders or Fenians before long."

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH TRADING NEWS.

A Weekly Journal of Local and General Information.

Will be Published every Saturday Morning, at Ten Cents a Copy, or One Dollar a Year, STRICTLY IN ADVANCE.

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE INSERTED ON THE

FOLLOWING TERMS FOR CASH:—

Six lines, first insertion	0 50
Each subsequent insertion	0 12 1/2
Six to ten lines, first insertion	0 75
Each subsequent insertion	0 16
Above ten lines (per line) first insertion	0 07
Each subsequent insertion, per line	0 02

All Communications for the *MERCURY* to be addressed, (post-paid) to A. SMALLFIELD, Madoc Post Office.

For sale at WILSON'S MEDICAL HALL, Madoc, where Subscribers in and near the village may obtain their copies, and orders for the paper and advertisements will obligingly be received.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

AMERICAN WAR NEWS.—The second combined naval and military attack upon Fort Fisher resulted in the fall of that place at ten o'clock on Sunday night, after a terrific bombardment of nearly sixty hours. The attack was commenced by the navy on the 13th, and by sunset on the 14th, Rear-Admiral Porter reports, the fort was reduced to a pulp, and every gun in it was silenced, either by being injured or covered up with earth so that they could not work. The attempt to carry the fort by storm was commenced at three o'clock on Sunday afternoon by 3,000 soldiers and 2,000 sailors and marines. The Confederate garrison, who were cut off from receiving reinforcements, resisted stubbornly, but after a furious hand to hand encounter, lasting for nearly seven hours, they were overpowered by numbers, driven out of the fort, and compelled to surrender unconditionally. The Federals captured 94 cannon, 2,000 living prisoners and 700 dead, their own loss being estimated at 900. Porter compliments Terry as the beau ideal of a soldier and a general. Butler is extinguished.

On the morning after the capture of the fort, the magazine exploded, killing and wounding 200 or 300 persons.—It is doubtful whether the Confederates can hold Wilmington much longer.

Mr. Blair has returned from Richmond. He seems to have gone on private business, and all idea of peace resulting from his visit is now exploded.



THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH TRADING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, JANUARY 14.

AMERICAN ILL-WILL.

We believe that there is only too much reason to apprehend that sooner or later war between the United States and Great Britain is inevitable, and that the former are resolved to make this Province the battle-ground, unless, by thorough and ample preparation on our part for such a contingency, we deprive them of the convenient opportunity for which alone they are waiting. We know that there are many who argue that both countries have too many common interests at stake for either to take the first decisive step towards war, and that nothing but national madness on the part of one or both could ever lead to the inauguration of a struggle such as the world has never yet witnessed. The upholders of this theory, however, must admit that there were just as powerful arguments against the commencement of the American civil war itself, and that they entirely failed to prevent it. And the longer that war continues, and whatever its result, the greater, in our opinion, becomes the danger of Great Britain and its North American dependencies being involved

in the same calamity. For if the Confederate States, in spite of the tremendous efforts of the United States, continue to hold out with unbroken spirit, the North will seek an excuse for abandoning the contest in a foreign war; and the adversary they will choose, as popular opinion and threats from the commencement of the civil war have shown, will be Great Britain, which power alone is held responsible for the recognition of the belligerent rights of the South, although her example in that respect has been followed by all other nations. Ancient grudges and the hope of finding a compensation for the loss of the Southern States in the British North American possessions will induce the adoption of this course. If, on the other hand, the South succumbs, the "rebels" will attribute their defeat to British neutrality, and will readily resume their old and even now scarcely concealed hostility to the mother country; and North and South, confident that their united strength will terrify Great Britain into submission to any demand they may please to make, will bully her beyond endurance. Either way, unless we are found fully prepared to "carry the war into Africa," the prospect is not encouraging.

Of the unfriendly feeling of the American Government and people toward us, in advance of their readiness to declare open war, the last few months, weeks and even days, have furnished sufficient proofs. Beginning with giving notice of their intention to put gunboats on the Lakes, which, as we have before pointed out, they have so timed as to gain an advantage of some two months before the opening of navigation on the St. Lawrence will enable Great Britain to place herself on an equality in that respect,—we next had Gen. Dix's invasion order, which, although officially revoked, is nevertheless approvingly spoken of by men like Gen. Wool, (who has had occasion to feel sore about his own Canadian experience) and the Anti-British part of the population. Then came Seward's passport system, specially designed for the annoyance and injury of this Province, and which he refuses to withdraw or modify, although it is remonstrated against by the States and railway and other interests which also suffer from it. Both Houses of Congress have since determined on giving notice of the repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty, notwithstanding the fact that the most enlightened and influential Boards of Trades of various cities, as well as leading members of Congress, have shown that it has been of really greater benefit to the United States than to Canada, undoubted though its advantages have been to us. But Canada has to be punished, and away the Treaty must go. And now, within the last day or two, the Senate has adopted a resolution of Senator Sumner's, asking the President if there is nothing in the extradition clause of the Ashburton Treaty to show the expediency of putting an end to it. If all these things do not mean mischief, and furnish timely warnings by which if we are wise we may profit, what can be their object? Let the friends and advocates of the United States, in Canada, expound the riddle, if they can. The Canadian Government has done all in its power to prevent raids, and in return, the way is being paved for future quarrels.

ANOTHER COLD SNAP.—The weather was very cold in the early part of the week, and on Wednesday morning the thermometer was down to 25 degrees below zero.

Madoc Township Council.

The newly elected members of the Township Council met at the Town-Hall on Monday, the 16th for organization.

Before proceedings duly commenced, Mr. St. Reed observed that as all the gentlemen of the Council were present, he wished them to vote for his Deputy Reeve. He thought he had a right to this, as he had already served in the Council the year, and because he stood second in point of years on the poll book at the recent election. Jephtha Bradshaw remarked that that had not to do with the choice of Deputy Reeve. The only vote for five Councillors; the selection of Reeve and Deputy Reeve rested entirely with the Councillors.—Mr. Reed said Mr. Bradshaw had a right to come there to oppose him; when Mr. T. city, who was present, said that the Council had organized, and any person therefore had a right to speak in the Town-Hall.

The Township Clerk having sworn in the members as to their qualifications to sit, and called for nominations for Reeve and Deputy-Reeve, it was moved by Mr. Tassie, seconded by Mr. Ward, that A. F. W. be Reeve for 1885.—Carried unanimously.

Mr. Wood took the chair, and thanked the Council for the confidence they had reposed in him.

It was then moved by Mr. Blair, seconded by Tassie, and carried, that WILLIAM WARD be Deputy Reeve for the present year.

Auditors.—J. H. Dunn, Esq., was appointed Auditor on behalf of the Council, and Charles Groom, Esq. was appointed the other Auditor by the Reeve.

It was then moved by Mr. Tassie, seconded by Ward, that there be two Assessors appointed.

At the suggestion of the Reeve, the Council invited Mr. Timely to take a seat "within the bar."

The Council then adjourned for an hour; and re-assembling, proceeded to appoint various Township officers.

Assessors.—Thomas Allen and John N. Moore applied to be appointed Assessors. No other application being made, on motion of Mr. Reed, seconded by Mr. Tassie, they were appointed to the office.

Collector.—On motion of Mr. Tassie, seconded by Mr. Ward, Donald Nicholson was re-appointed Collector.

License and Tavern Inspector.—On motion of Tassie, seconded by Mr. Blair, John Dale was appointed License and Tavern Inspector.

Township Surveyor.—On motion of Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Blair, Jephtha Bradshaw was appointed Township Surveyor for the present year.

The Reeve said it would perhaps not be amiss to decide on the salaries of the above officers. The Assessors last year received \$80 for assessing, and \$10 for notifying path-masters, pound-keepers, and fence viewers of their appointments; but as they could do this while making out their assessments, he suggested that there was no need for the payment of the extra \$10.—Mr. Reed moved that they should be paid on \$75. Not seconded.—Mr. Tassie moved, seconded by Mr. Blair, that the Assessors should be paid \$80 for assessing, and also notifying pathmasters, &c., their appointment by the Council.

With respect to the salary of the Collector, the Reeve thought the pay he received last year, \$30 was as low as it possibly should be.—Mr. Reed moved it be \$75. This was seconded by Mr. Blair, who thought that as the salary of the Assessors had been reduced, so ought that of the Collector to be.—Carried.

After some discussion as to the duties of the License Inspector, it was moved by Mr. Ward, and seconded by Mr. Reed that J. Dale be paid \$20.—Same as before.—Carried.

The pay of the Township Surveyor was fixed at \$10 for each report, plan, advertising the same, and attendance on the Council.

The Reeve also called attention to the very bad way in which much of the road work in the Township was done last year, and suggested that a person should be appointed, at a small sum, to superintend all road work and report to the Council.

Mr. Reed remarked that he would not vote for the expenditure of a copper on any road, during the ensuing year, on which road work had not been properly performed.—The Council generally expressed the same opinion, and then postponed the further consideration of the subject till their next meeting.

Adjourned till the 1st of February.

The Presbyterian Soirees.

The Soiree at the Presbyterian Church in this village, on Wednesday evening, was the most numerous yet attended, and in a financial point of view, the most

ADVERTISEMENTS.

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in Madoc Post Office up to the
1st of January, 1885.

Diakely, James
Bryant, C B
Brown, T
Best, Jno C
Bash, John
Fenn, R
Ferguson, R T

Howe, Win
Monroe, L
McLean, J
Macey, Charlotte
Pamir, James
Smith, Jno

A. F. WOOD, Postmaster.

To all Whom It May Concern.

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF MADOC will meet in the
TOWN-HALL, on WEDNESDAY, the 1st day of FEBRUARY
next, for the purpose of appointing the RATE-MASTERS,
TOWN-RECORDERS, and TOWN-CLERKS of the
Township of Madoc. All persons interested are requested to
send to the Clerk of the Council the name of those they wish to fill the
above offices.

Office, Town Hall, Jan. 16, 1885.
J. R. KETCHESON, T. Clerk.

MADOC HOUSE.

WOOD & BREAKELL,
General Merchants,
Are Paying the HIGHEST PRICE in
CASH for any Quantity of
**Wheat, Rye, Barley, Oats, and
Peas.**

FLOUR for Sale, fresh ground and in Barrels.
AUGUST 17, 1861.

FARM TO LET.

THE FARM, containing 200 acres, Lot No. 9, in the 9th
Concession of Hastings, with extensive buildings,
known as "The Old Francis Place."

Rent moderate.
This farm is on the County gravel road from Belleville to
Madoc, five miles from the latter place, where there is a cash
market for produce. Apply to
WILLIAM H. STEPHENS, Montreal, or
M. P. HAYES, Madoc.
April 16, 1864.

NORTH HASTINGS.

JOB PRINTING

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION
Executed at the

"MERCURY"

OFFICE, MADOC,
(The Only Printing Establishment in the North Riding.)
With Swiftness and Dispatch.

SUPPORT THE LOCAL INSTITUTIONS!!

North American Hotel, Madoc.

W. HUDGINS

RESPECTFULLY informs the Public that his new Hotel,
erected on the site of the old stand, is now finished and
completely furnished and ready for the reception of guests.
THE NORTH AMERICAN HOTEL is quite equal in all its
arrangements to any first class hotel in any village in Canada.
A Good Yard and Stables attached to the premises.
All the Liquors are of the very best quality and brands.
\$5 Fine Ale and Porter always on draught.

MEDICAL HALL.

DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

C. G. WILSON,
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

Best Spanish Sole Leather
ON HAND, CHEAP FOR CASH.

CASH Paid for HIDES and PELTS by
SYLVANUS MULLETT.

Volunteers! Turn Out!!

ALL Parties INDEBTED to A. WRIGHT, either by
Note, or Otherwise,
must Call and Settle IMMEDIATELY, and SAVE COSTS.

\$1,000,000!!

ONE OF THE CHEAPEST PLACES TO BUY GOODS
IS "WILSON'S". He has just received
850 Pairs of Boots and Shoes,
For Men, Ladies, Misses, Boys & Children

FOR SCHOOL BOOKS, STATIONERY,
AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS,
At Publishers' Prices, Call At
WILSON'S DRUG STORE,
DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

A. F. WOOD,
MARRIAGE LICENSE AGENT,
MADOC.

J. R. KETCHESON,
Township Clerk,
Will be at the TOWN-HALL, MADOC, every SATUR-
DAY, to attend to the business of the Township.

G. C. CALDWELL,
VETERINARY SURGEON,
MADOC.

MADOC GRIST MILL,
A. F. WOOD, Madoc.
A thoroughly Competent Miller in charge.

Mr. GREAM,
(Solicitor and Attorney of the Chancery and Law Courts
of England)
Conveyancer, Coroner, &c.

JAMES FITZGERALD,
ATTORNEY AND CONVEYANCER
MADOC.

A. B. ROSS & BROTHER,
GENERAL MERCHANTS,
The Highest Price in Cash paid for Potash
A. B. ROSS. S. D. ROSS.

Dr. THWAITES,
Madoc.

C. E. RANKIN,
Provincial Land Surveyor,
Civil Engineer, &c.
Office, Hudgins' Hotel, Madoc.

FOR SALE, OR TO LET,

THE HOUSE on the North side of KELLAR'S BRIDGE,
is well adapted and situated for a
GENERAL STORE.
Being eight miles distant from the Village of Hastings, on the
new Gravel Road to Tudor. Six Acres of Land attached.
For TERMS, inquire at the Mercury Office.

MADOC MARKET PRICES.

SATURDAY, January 21, 1885.

ASHES	\$1 50 p cwt.
BARLEY	60 cents.
OATS	45 cents.
WHEAT	90 cents.
RYE	50 cents.
PEAS	60 cents.
HIDES	\$2.
PORK	\$12 p bbl.
BUTTER	94 p lb.
EGGS	6d.
HAY	\$ 8 10p.

BELLEVILLE MARKETS.

Spring Wheat, 4s 4d 2 1/2 cwt. Rye, 3s 0 1/2 cwt. Barley,
2s 6d 2 1/2 cwt. Oats, 1s 9d 1/2 cwt. Peas, 2s 10d 2 1/2 cwt. Flour,
(Retail) 11 p bbl, 22s 6d. Potash, 10 1/2 cwt, 21s 0 1/2 cwt. Hay,
10 ton, 6s 6d 0 1/2 cwt. Potatoes, 3s bushel, 1s 0 1/2 cwt. Butter,
100 lb, 17d 1/2 cwt. Pork, 10 1/2 lb, 21s 0 1/2 cwt. Eggs,
100, 9d 1/2 cwt. Eggs, 1/2 doz, 1s 2d. Hides, \$2. Potatoes,
10 1/2 doz 75. Potatoes, 1 bushel, 11d 1/2 cwt. Wood 1 cwt.

one ever held there. The total receipts,
\$12 and some cents collected for the Home
Fund, and \$13 from the Children's Soiree
that day, amounted to \$115; a handsome sum
thus realized towards the liquidation of the
debt. The chair was occupied by A. F.
Esq., the Warden of the County. Addresses
delivered by the Rev. D. Wishart, U. Seymour,
Mr. Wm. Campbell, and the Rev. Mr. McLaren,
Belleville. The Rev. Messrs. Buchanan, of Stirling,
and Harris and Campbell, of Madoc, and others who
were expected to be present, were unable to at-
tend. The refreshments provided were ample in
quantity and excellent in quality. Before the meet-
ing broke up, the Chairman presented, on behalf of
the Finance Committee, a testimonial to the Rev. Mr.
McLaren in the shape of a handsome cake. The
testimonial was presented by Miss Ackermann, who presided at
the Soiree, was large and effective, and received the
unanimous vote of thanks for their services. The
meeting was dismissed with the benediction, pro-
vided by the Rev. Mr. McLaren.

The Soiree and Missionary meeting at the rev.
Catholic Church in Huntingdon, on Monday
evening, also passed off in the most satisfactory man-
ner. The building being crowded to its utmost cap-
acity. About \$50 was obtained there.

The Soiree for the purpose of liquidating the debt
on the Church in the Allen Settlement, on the 14th,
was not so successful, the unfavour-
able state of the weather preventing a large attend-
ance.

Diocesan Missions.

To the Editor of the Madoc Mercury.

MADOC, Jan. 20, 1885.

Sir.—The deputation from the Mission Board of
the Diocese of Ontario of the United Church of Eng-
land and Ireland met in the Town Hall last evening.
The members and friends on the subject of
the mission consisted of Rev. Messrs.
Baker, of Stirling;
of Camden East; and
as well as the Rev. Mr.
who presided the meeting. The
occupied by Chas. Gream, Esq. I regret
that, for some unknown reason, the meet-
ing number more than thirty persons; and I
state that in times past, nay even yet, when
people were asked to come forward to sup-
ports of other churches they were never back-
siding whenever they should attempt to
their own church others would assist them.
I was very galling to our resident Minister to
be present, and as he very truly observed,
I did not look very strange to the Deputation and
I was lukewarm himself. It is hoped, however,
that the Collectors' cards will show that we do appre-
ciate services and that we can and will give him
support and countenance he so well deserves.

A CHURCHMAN.

DEATH OF BEEF.—About two o'clock on Thursday
evening, Dr. Thwaites was awakened by the noise
apparently by some person stumbling against
him in the dark. On proceeding to the kitchen,
the sound came, he found the door open, but
of any one about the premises. After a cur-
sory search, and not then missing anything,
he closed the door and again went to bed; but in
the morning discovered that a piece of beef, weighing
twenty pounds, had been carried off.—We have
rather petty thefts of edibles about the village,
and delinquents are generally supposed to be
in this case the thief is more likely to be a

at BELLEVILLE.—The "Bruce Buildings" at
the Mill and Pinnacle streets, Belleville,
were destroyed by fire on Saturday morning last,
at 1 o'clock. The fire was so evidently the
consequence, that an inquisition was held
into the matter, and the investigation, we hear, has led
to the conviction of some parties to jail. The build-
ing was occupied by five families—some of whom oc-
casionally were temporarily, having been burned
out of their homes. They have lost all. The fire
started in the bar of Wm. Crouch, who
occupied three rooms as a "hotel," a bar-room, kit-
chen, and one bed-room. The Chronicle states that
the insured for \$600.

THREE TIMES.

First time I saw my Love, my eyes
Were gladdened with a sweet surprise:
There woke a thought that never dies
That bright June morning.
A vision, fairly clad in white,
Dawned softly, freshly on my sight,
And in her hand were roses bright—
Some roses—pure from cheek or blight,
My Love's adorning!

Last time I saw my Love, she lay
At pale, all silent, cold as clay.
The light of life had died away,
Oh, sad and sweet last time!
And still she wore a robe of white,
And on her pillow, lightly pressed,
And in her hand that lay at rest,
Solemnly on her peaceful breast,
Were roses—buds not opened quite—
Gathered before their prime.
A tender care had laid them there,
But my dead Love was far more fair.

Next time I see my Love, I know
A glorious garment, white as snow,
On which no stain of earth can show—
A garment meet for heaven—
Will robe the form I long to see,
My angel-love who waits for me,
And holds a palm of victory,
For earth's white roses given.

AN OLD MAN'S CHRISTMAS TREAT.

"Curry," repeated the old gentleman testily, for the landlady was a little deaf, and he was not a patient man. "A curried fowl or a rabbit, and some more coal: 'tis enough to freeze one's very marrow. Oh—I say—"

"Did you call, Mr. Carr?"

"You don't happen to know those people opposite, I suppose?—the lodgers I mean: first floor, or flat, or whatever you call it?"

"Do you mean the artist, sir?"

"Artist, eh? Yes, so he is. But the lady—a young lady—wife or sister?"

"His wife, sir. The name's Levison, sir. They haven't been there very long. I don't know much about them."

"Thank you, Mrs. Gill, never mind. Let the curry be hot, if you please. The wind was right in my teeth, and it cuts like a knife. The sharpest day we've have since I came home—umph!—to town, I mean."

Mr. Hugh Carr slowly took off his greatcoat, looking up at the cold grey sky, from which a few feathery flakes were dropping. He was an old gentleman, with a sawn face and big black eyebrows, fierce-looking enough until he smiled or spoke, either of which actions lighted up his face like a sudden sunbeam. For a man who had spent fifteen or sixteen years in Calcutta he was still wonderfully healthy; and as to his little eccentricities, why if any one had a right to be eccentric, surely he had. He had neither wife nor child to consider, to spend money upon, or to save for. In fact, just at present he felt, in spite of his riches, like a desolate waif flung down in a world whose ways he had almost forgotten. There was, it is true, his brother, Mr. James Morville-Carr, and his brother's family, for him to seek out; but somehow the thought of these did not seem to comfort him much this evening. They lived in a fine house at the fashionable end of the town, and, as he said to himself, he was battered and ugly, and unfashionable. He might not suit them, nor they him. At any rate, it had been his whim to settle himself comfortably in these unpretending lodgings before he presented himself to his brother. Until now he had thought of that meeting with a strange softening about his heart, a strange return of memory to the days when his brother was only "Jim," and they two were thrown upon the world together, with little money and less credit. But all that was altered now. Jim was a rich man, and had a fine lady for a wife. Perhaps his sons would be too much of fine gentlemen to like owning a yellow old man from India as their uncle; they would have fine friends, no doubt; too grand for him. They would—

Here Mr. Carr pulled up suddenly with a gesture and an exclamation, "Here she is again, by George!"

What he saw was a fair head at a window opposite, and it was bent down over some work which the owner must have been in haste to finish, for Mr. Carr could see the swift flying of the needle, and guessed that she had come to catch what remained of the fading daylight. He leaned back a little, watching her, and a thoughtful expression came into his face. He liked that young wife opposite, who was so diligent and bright-faced. He had seen her once turn from the window to welcome her husband, and the night had stirred his gentle old heart with a wonderful mingling of thoughts and emotions which he had fancied dead for ever. She was very pretty, too;

and though the old man imagined that he saw signs of poverty in the first-floor sitting-room, yet she was always neat, always ladylike; always bright and cheery when the artist came in, however grave she might have been before.

"I'm an old fogey, to be sure," mused Mr. Carr; "and she wouldn't care to know it; but the child has done me good. She's like—now, who on earth is she like, or what insane fancy am I going to take next?"

He could not, however, get rid of the fancy. It haunted him; that vague likeness which came from time to time flashing across his mind, but never taking any definite shape. When it grew dark he saw the sudden springing up of a light in the room opposite. Then the door opened, and there were two people in the room. Did the young man for a moment put out his arms to the dimly little figure, and take it into them? Mr. Carr felt strangely drawn towards him for that. It never occurred to him that he was playing the spy. His own room was singularly favourable for the purpose, since it looked down upon these neighbours of his. No, he was not a spy. He was really and gravely interested in those young people; and though he laughed at himself and called himself a natter, he could not help his interest.

"Poor," said Mr. Carr, "undoubtedly a struggling artist. I wonder now if he has any genius. I used to be rather a judge of pictures; that is, I fancied so. We shall see—hem!—there comes the curry."

Mr. Carr ate his dinner thoughtfully. You would have smiled to see how the workings of the old man's mind still followed in the same track; how he stopped from time to time to glance round the walls of his room, on which a straggling little picture or two hung, modestly inviting attention, to nod at these, and frown and mutter to himself. "I've got money—more than I know what to do with. Jim doesn't want it. Jim's children won't want it; that is, not all of it. I should like to do a little good, yellow old curmudgeon as I am. If the young fellow's pictures are good, I shall like to look at them; if they're bad, I can turn their faces to the wall. The money would help him all the same. He may be a genius, for anything I know, but 'tis uphill work for a genius married and unknown. I'll see about it."

"Mrs. Gill!"—"Sir?"—"You think me an old crab, don't you?"

Mrs. Gill stared, and then smiled. He certainly was a different looking gentleman now that he had dined, and the fire began to roar up the chimney.

"Well, I'm not really a crab, Mrs. Gill, but I feel the cold terribly. Travellers do, you know, coming straight from a country where 'tis hot enough to cook a fowl. And when I'm cold it always flies to my temper. But you've made a capital curry, and I'm obliged to you; I also like my quarters, and mean to remain in them."

Mrs. Gill expressed her gratification; and the old gentleman continued, "if ever I give too much trouble you must tell me about it. I shall snarl a bit sometimes, perhaps, but you won't mind that. And now will you just have the kindness to send my man here—I want him to take a note."

The landlady vanished, and Mr. Carr sat, with his hands on his knees, smiling grimly into the fire.

"I don't see at all why I shouldn't have my portrait taken," he soliloquised. "It won't be very handsome, perhaps; but I might have it done with a snarl on the lips, and then it would serve as a reminder whenever I look at it. By George, a rare idea!"

"Is your master in?" demanded Mr. Carr.

"Mr. Morville-Carr? Ya-as, he's in. What may your business be?"

"I want to see him," said Mr. Carr.

Mr. Morville-Carr's footman raised his eyebrow slightly and glanced at the visitor—a tall, grey-haired man, with a rough grey-coat, and a red muffler covering his throat and chin; but as the footman looked, he fancied that his visitor's firm-set mouth relaxed slightly—that he was actually laughing. It was too much.

"Don't think Mr. Morville-Carr will see you, my man. He's engaged."

"Have the goodness to show me in," said the visitor, curtly, "and to tell your master that his brother, Mr. Hugh Carr, wishes to see him."

The footman looked incredulous, but there was something in the old gentleman's manner just then startled him into precipitate obedience.

Mr. Hugh Carr heard his name announced, and saw a tall thin gentleman look up from a writing-table, hesitate a moment, and then rise.

"How do you do?" said this gentleman, putting out a cold white hand with a diamond glittering upon it. He winced a little at Hugh's hearty pressure, and then, suddenly recollecting that he had not seen his brother for some years, he added, "Welcome back!"

"Thank you, Jim. I've knocked about the long enough, but I'm home for good now, I hope." "Ah, yes, of course," said Mr. Morville-Carr, "that's right. You'll dine with us?"

Hugh did not answer for a moment. Old was in the world's ways, he was struggling against certain bitter sensation of pain at his brother's unmoved greeting. The supercilious footman had been simply amusing, but this was another. It had been fifteen years away; and now this who used to be so warm-hearted, just spoke to him as if they had met yesterday, and asked him to dine. He made no allowance for his acquired selfishness, nor for the influence which his fashionable had exercised upon him for so many years. He was little more than stranger; that he wanted; that he had not a friend in the world would care whether he lived or died, was happy or miserable.

(To be continued.)

VARIETIES.

Which is the smallest bridge in the world?—The bridge of your nose.

When is butter like Irish children?—When made into little pats.

Water from the river Jordan is sold in Paris, for purposes of baptism of children, by sprinkling.

There are two ways of getting rich, one by adding to our possessions, the other by diminishing our desires; the latter is much the easier and readier.

Nothing casts a denser cloud over the mind than discontent, rendering it more occupied about the things that disquiet it than the means of removing it.

If you would relish your food, labour for it; if you would enjoy your raiment, pay for it before you wear it; if you would sleep soundly, take a clear conscience to bed with you.

A missionary in London, recently returning from the East, told the driver that he was much interested in the people.

"Are they a civilised people?" he asked.

"Do they take their gin of a Sunday?"

At the Christmas examination of a school from London, a young tyro in declamation, who had been told by the teacher that he must gesture according to the sense, in commencing a piece which came lifts its fiery tail, "lifted the tail of his horse to a horizontal position, causing roars of laughter."

No man can tell another's feelings. A student of Irish labourer was one day begging from a gentleman, who requested a medical man present to examine the said labourer. The labourer had enforced his plea with—"Yer hanner, I can't work."—"I can't do nothing the matter with you to prevent your working, my man," said the doctor. "Ah, that's thrane you," replied Pat; "but then your hanner can't be how lazy I feel."

OH, HOW ARTFUL!—Wife: Whenever I was nice snug day, all to myself, I tell George my mind is coming; and then I see nothing of him till on the morning.—Punch.

CURE FOR LAZINESS.—The Dutch have a singular contrivance to cure laziness. If a pauper who is refused to work, they put him into a cistern, and in a sluice of water. It comes in just so fast, that briskly applying a pump, with which the cistern is furnished, he keeps himself from drowning.

CAUTION TO "FAST MEN."—A young gent is to have lately lost an excellent party, a girl in with twenty thousand pounds, through an inconsiderate act of "fastness." It appears that one Sabbath, May, he went to church with his intended, who had occasion to search for the collect, asked him if Sunday it was? The unhappy "fast man," gave way to what was uppermost in his mind, replied "That it was the last Sunday before the Derby," the worldly-minded answer so disgusted his innamorata that a coldness ensued, and the match was ultimately broken off.

HOW A CREDITOR TOOK OUT A DEBT.—A pauper having sold the village Esculapian a sack of wheat called upon his debtor for the pay. "Haven't I any money," replied the man of physic. "Then, give me back my wheat."—"Impossible," replied the creditor. "Then give me a chair, or a table, or something."—"Got none, I'm a regular bankrupt."—"Then put some leeches on me, anyhow!"—"The doctor did as he was requested, and the peasant departed satisfied!

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, (HASTINGS CO., C.W.) SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1866.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

possibility, and even probability, of the war being closed by negotiations for peace, is discussed than ever. The leading view, till within a very few days, scouted the idea that there was any foundation for the current peace. They have, however, now some change their opinion. It appears that Mr. Blair's visit to Richmond was not without important results, after all. It is understood in Richmond that he had a private and confidential interview with President Davis, who sent Blair an autograph expressing his willingness to send or receive commissioners authorized to negotiate peace. A Whig says it is known that Davis will be no obstacle of form (by which is meant, it is said, a technical recognition of his government) in the way of sending or receiving commissioners. Mr. Blair, on his return to Washington, repeated interviews with President Lincoln, who was giving his mind to the endeavours on his side to bring about a settlement; and after a sojourn in the Federal capital, he returned to Richmond, whence he is expected back again in a few days. It is impossible to predict what the result will be, or to guess whether these statements afford any foundation in truth. Hitherto Davis' obstinate refusal to recognize the Confederacy has been represented as the great obstacle to the termination of the war than the recognition of the independence of the Confederate States, and it is said he has been accused by some of the members of endeavouring to intimidate the members of the Congress, recently as defiant as ever. It is asserted in the Northern press that he has reported unanimously through their Foreign Relations, in favour of sending "to sue for a peace." It seems as if he has inclined some to give up the hopeless, while others, rather than seek peace, would make the best terms they could with themselves with the United States. But it is not unanimous, others arguing that the surrender of the port of Wilmington, by throwing the Confederates entirely on their own resources, will only prove a gain. The troops previously deployed at the seaports can be concentrated for offensive purposes elsewhere. If the South is not ready for war, there appears to be a sufficiently resolute majority still left to render an unconditional surrender on their part extremely improbable, till they are disposed of, we think there is no prospect of peace.

After the surrender of Fort Fisher, the Confederates up Fort Caswell and the other minor positions, the entrance of Cape Fear river. The capture of Wilmington itself was announced last week, but the rumour was premature. The entire force under Gen. Terry had advanced the town, reinforced by a heavy veteran troops from Sherman, believed to be the command of Gen. Howard. It was thought to meet with little or no opposition. Light troops were moving cautiously towards Wilmington for torpedoes. No doubt is felt that it will soon be in possession of the Federals. Sherman's army, it is announced, is again on the march, and it is promised that news will soon be of the stars and stripes floating over more Confederate cities. Important military news from the South was looked for hourly at Washington

at the beginning of this week. It is expected that Sherman can walk the course through South Carolina. The fall of Charleston is another of the things which is "hourly expected." A large number of Confederate reinforcements are reported to have arrived in that city. Some of the monitors blockading the harbour of that rebellious city have lately been sunk by torpedoes. Some conjectures are hazarded that nothing can "resist the sweep of Sherman's magnificent army," and that he can now with ease march northwards to Richmond, where he will join Grant, defeat Lee, and at one blow finish the last remnant of the rebellion.

The Confederates say that the losses in Hood's army were much less than reported, and that 8,000 will cover all casualties during the campaign, and that Hood has plenty of artillery. It is rumoured in Richmond that Gen. Hood has been superseded by Gen. Dick Taylor. The Confederates are likely to give trouble enough, yet, wherever they are beyond the reach of gunboats.

Provincial Parliament.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

QUEBEC, Jan. 19.

This day at 3 P.M. His Excellency the Governor-General proceeded in state to the chamber of the Legislative Council in the Parliament buildings. The members of the Legislative Council being assembled. His Excellency was pleased to command the attendance of the Legislative Assembly; and that House being present, His Excellency was pleased to open the third session of the eighth Parliament of the Province of Canada with the following

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE:

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:
GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

In calling you together to resume the performance of your constitutional duties, I desire to express my thankfulness to the beneficent Providence, that I am enabled to congratulate you on the general contentment of the people of this Province, and the continuance to us of the inestimable blessing of Peace.

Outrages have been committed on the commerce and territory of the United States of America by persons who, after the perpetration of these acts, have sought refuge on Canadian soil.

In order to prevent the organization of any such enterprises within this Province, and also to enable me to discharge in an effective manner my duties towards a neighbouring power on terms of friendship with Her Majesty, I have seen fit to organize a system of detective police on the frontier line of the United States, and with the same design I have called out for permanent duty a portion of the Volunteer force of the Province.

Similar considerations have suggested the propriety of arming the Executive Government with stronger powers than it now possesses for dealing with persons who, while availing themselves of the right of asylum which has always been allowed on British soil to political refugees from all foreign countries, may be unamiable of the implied obligations which, by their residence amongst us, they contract to obey our laws and to respect the declared policy of our Sovereign. A bill, framed for this purpose, will be laid before you, and ask for it your early consideration.

I am happy to be able to inform you of the zeal and alacrity displayed by the members of the Volunteer force when called upon to turn out for active service. Their conduct shows that the present population of Canada has not degenerated from the mainly virtues which characterize the race from which it derives its origin, and that it may be relied on, under all circumstances, to respond to the call of duty for the maintenance of internal order, or to repel foreign aggression.

The Commissioners appointed under the provisions of the second chapter of the Consolidated Statutes of Lower Canada to frame a Civil Code, and also a Code of Civil Procedure for Lower Canada, have completed the greater part of their duty; the results of their labours shall be laid before you, and I am informed that the Code of Civil Procedure is in a very advanced state. The completion of the codification of the civil law, in both French and English, cannot fail to be of great benefit to the inhabitants of Lower Canada, by enabling the people of all origins to read, in the laws languages, the civil law under which they live, and which hitherto has only been accessible in a language which is no longer the mother tongue of a portion of the people whose civil rights are regulated by it.

GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

The expenditure rendered necessary by calling out the Volunteers for active service, which was unforeseen when the Estimates of the current year were agreed to, will necessitate a supplementary vote for its service. I have desired that an estimate for this purpose should be laid before you.

I am happy to be able to inform you that the financial legislation of the session has been attended with beneficial results. The revenue has largely increased, and there has been a corresponding extension of the trade of the Province.

I have directed a committee for the next session to be laid before you, and you will find that they have been

framed with a due attention to economy combined with efficiency.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN AND GENTLEMEN:

At the close of the last session of Parliament I informed you that it was my intention, in conjunction with my ministers, to prepare and submit to you a measure for the solution of the constitutional problem, the discussion of which has for some years agitated this Province.

A careful consideration of the general position of British North America induced the conviction that the circumstances of the times afforded the opportunity not merely for the settlement of a question of Provincial politics, but also for the simultaneous creation of a new Nationality.

Preliminary negotiations were opened by me with the Lieutenant Governors of the other Provinces of British North America, and the result was that a meeting was held at Quebec, in the month of October last, composed of delegates from those Colonies, representing all shades of political party in their several communities, nominated by the Lieutenant Governors of their respective Provinces, who assembled here, with the sanction of the Crown, and at my invitation, to confer with the members of the Canadian Ministry on the possibility of effecting a Union of all the Provinces of British North America.

This Conference, after lengthened deliberations, arrived at the conclusion that a Federal Union of these Provinces was feasible and desirable, and the result of its labours is a plan of Constitution for the proposed Union, embodied in a series of resolutions which, with other papers relating to the subject, I have directed to be laid before you.

The general design of a Union, and the particular plan by which it is proposed to carry this intention into effect, have both received the cordial approbation of the Imperial Government. An Imperial Act of Parliament will be necessary in order to give effect to the contemplated Union of the Colonies, and I have been officially informed by the Secretary of State that Her Majesty's Ministers will be prepared to introduce a bill for that purpose into the Imperial Parliament, so soon as they shall have been notified that the proposal has received the sanction of the Legislatures representing the several Provinces affected by it.

In commending to your attention this subject, the importance of which to yourselves and to your descendants it is impossible to exaggerate, I would claim for it your calm, earnest and impartial consideration. With the public men of British North America it now falls to decide whether the vast tract of country which their dominion shall be consolidated into a State, comprising within its area all the elements of national greatness, providing for the security of its component parts and contributing to the strength and solidity of the Empire; or whether we several Provinces of which it is constituted shall remain in their present fragmentary and isolated condition, comparatively powerless for mutual aid, and incapable of undertaking their proper share of Imperial responsibility. In the discussion of an issue of such moment, I fervently pray that your minds may be guided to conclusions which shall redound to the honour of our Sovereign, to the welfare of Her subjects, and to your own reputation as patriots and statesmen.

His Excellency having left the building, the business of the Council commenced. The Hon. Messrs. Gignas, Drummond, Chaffers, McPherson, Duchesne, and Bell were introduced and took their seats.

On motion of Sir E. P. Taché, the consideration of the Speech was postponed until Monday next.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

On the members returning, the Speaker announced the seats that had become vacant since the last session and the members who had been returned.

The Hon. Messrs. Brown, Macdougall and Howland, and Messrs. Haultain, Tremblay, Morrison and Gatchner were introduced and took their seats.

After transacting some routine business, the House adjourned till Monday.

From Europe.

The City of Baltimore arrived at New York on the 20th inst.—Mr. Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies, in a speech at Oxford, asserted that the Canadian Government would maintain inviolate the neutrality of British territory, and if the existing laws prove insufficient, they will not long remain so.

The British revenue for 1864 is only £300,000 below the previous year, notwithstanding the reduction of several millions of taxation.

The British war steamer Racehorse was wrecked in the China Sea, and 99 lives lost.

The Canada arrived at Halifax on the 22nd.—The Army and Navy Gazette says that the Canadian army will in all probability lapse, but not harmoniously. The display of attachment to Great Britain and of patriotic zeal which the recent events called forth will add to the many sources of irritation which the contest in America has opened, and will transfer to the Canadians a full share of the overflowing animosity with which Great Britain is regarded by the masses of the Northern people, that the Canadians have sustained their fidelity to Imperial sympathy.

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

A Weekly Journal of Local and General Information.

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BY SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

AMERICAN WAR NEWS.—The latest intelligence indicates little likelihood of the termination of the war being hastened by Mr. Blair's so-called peace missions. The U. S. government holds "precisely the same position it has always held, and believes it can conquer a peace within a reasonable time;" and popular sentiment has over-ridden the desire of the Confederate Government for peace. When their armies are destroyed, they will make peace.

The Confederate Congress, instead of showing any disposition to "cave in," has passed a resolution appointing a joint committee to prepare an address to the people of the Confederate States, assuring them of the unalterable determination of Congress to continue, with all its energy, the struggle for independence.

The Richmond papers, with the exception of the Examiner, are unanimous in scouting the idea of the reconstruction of the Union being possible, or that the Confederates can gain any enduring peace, and personal security in the future, without independence.

A Confederate fleet of five vessels came down the James River, in the early part of the week, to attack the Federal depots and works at City Point. One of the vessels was blown up and entirely destroyed, and two more were so badly injured by shot and shell that they were compelled to seek safety, with the others, by speedy flight back to Richmond.

The Richmond Despatch contains a report that the C. S. General, Price, had captured Fort Smith, Arkansas, with its garrison of 2,000 men, but it is not officially confirmed.



THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, JANUARY 28.

The announcement of Mr. Wood's re-election as Warden, being by no means quite unexpected, was received here very quietly. The fact that he has for the third time been placed in that position by those most competent, from experience, to judge of his abilities, is the best proof of his fitness for the office.

THE PUBLIC DEFENCE.

We are glad to find that the Toronto Leader is exerting its great influence to awaken the people of Canada to the danger in which the Province will be placed by remaining unprepared for the possibility of war with the United States, as it evidently entertains similar views on the subject to those we expressed last week. On Saturday last that paper announced that thirty gunboats, carrying 3,500 men, are ordered to be sent out from England for the defence of the Lakes, and it insisted

that it is the duty of the Canadian Government to do its share towards providing for the public security, by at once calling out one hundred thousand men for six months' drill. On Tuesday it showed that the arming, equipping, and drilling of this number of men would be as follows:—

100 Lieutenant Colonels at	\$6	\$600
200 Majors	4 50	900
1,000 Captains	3 75	3,750
3,000 Subalterns	2 25	6,750
100 Quartermasters	3	300
100 Paymasters	3	300
100 Surgeons	6	600
100 Assistant do	3 75	375
100 A. J. tants	3 75	375
100 Regt. Sergt. Majors	1	100
4,000 Sergeants	75	3,000
4,000 Corporals	40	1,600
87,000 Privates	33	28,710

99,900 Total per day \$47,369

Making for 180 days \$8,524,860

To this sum must be added the cost of arming and equipment, which may be put down at \$40 per man.

35,000 men 3,800,000

\$12,324,860

Say, in round numbers, thirteen millions of dollars. This seems an enormous sum in the aggregate, but after all, it is less than five dollars per head of the population,—a much smaller sum than we should probably be individually willing to pay for insurance against the losses to which we should all be liable in case of an invasion. We have only to remember the accounts of the wholesale destruction of private Southern property, in the frequent Federal raids, to realize a faint idea of what we may expect, should the Americans carry out their continual threats of war against Great Britain, which means attempting to wrest her North American Provinces from her possession by force; and then to decide whether even the above large expenditure is not the least of two evils.

There are some few amongst us who believe our annexation to the American republic to be our manifest and inevitable destiny, and some few more, perhaps who would accept that fate in preference to fighting against it. But we have no doubt whatever that the majority see clearly enough that we should lose more than we should gain by that course. We should then have to bear our full share of the immense debt already incurred by the United States and would be liable to be drafted off to fight their battles—and if we suffer ourselves to be annexed unresistingly, their arrogance could soon bring them into conflict with other nations. "We cannot, however, rely upon their letting us alone, if we neglect to take the necessary steps for self-protection; and that we are in danger of drifting into war the following extracts from American papers will sufficiently prove, whatever sympathisers with the North may say to the contrary:—

The Detroit Free Press, commenting upon the numerous acts of hostility recently shown towards Great Britain and Canada by the Federal States, says:—

"If the crazed action of this administration is not stopped, and immediately, in these directions, a foreign war is as sure as that we are not yet closed our domestic one."

The Richmond Enquirer of Thursday last contains a significant article, which says that after every effort the Confederates may still, and policy and interest would incline them to admit to the United States rather than to England, France, or Maximilian. Joining their military force they could then sweep this continent and thus hide their shame, while America will become the colossal power of the world.

A Difference of Opinion.

The Governor-General commended the Throne by congratulating Parliament on "general prosperity and contentment of this Province." Mr. Isaac Buchanan, his seat as member for the city of Hamilton, in his letter announcing his reasons for declining to accept of the office, said:—

"So helpless, degraded, and anxious a position and prospects of the Province, the sequence of the unpatriotic theories of British Statesmen of the present day, loyalty of the colonists is being slowly undermined! Which of these two authorities is right is wrong? Mr. Buchanan advocates Confederation as inevitable. But he thinks Confederation, unless it has an independent Legislature, is useless, unless it has an independent industry; and it can only have this of a local or emblematic money, which on to remain within the Federation as a by-product." Financial authorities will not agree with him, but we believe that restriction upon the amount of paper money made a legal tender—say to the extent of the 100,000 men for the defence of the Province might be advantageously tried; there is notoriously too small an amount of circulation to give free development to the growth of the country.

Organization of the County Council.

A. F. WOOD again Elected Warden. The following gentlemen deposited their names of qualification and election, and took their seats on the Council Board.

SIMPSON.—K. Graham, Reeve; S. D. F. J. J. Farley, Reeve; P. J. J. Farley, Deputy Reeve.

TYNDENAGA.—N. S. Appleby, Reeve; J. J. J. Farley, Deputy Reeve.

STIRLING.—Dr. Geo. Boulter, Reeve; Wm. M. Boulter, Deputy Reeve.

RAWSON.—Robt. Linn, Reeve; J. J. J. Farley, Deputy Reeve.

HUNTINGDON.—Thos. Eno, Reeve; P. J. J. Farley, Deputy Reeve.

HUNGERFORD.—Felix Gabourie, Reeve; J. J. J. Farley, Deputy Reeve.

ELZEY.—Hon. Billa Flint, Reeve.

MADOC.—A. F. Wood, Reeve; Wm. W. Wood, Deputy Reeve.

MARMORA.—Sol. Johns, Reeve.

TUDOR AND LAKE.—A. Jelly, Reeve.

After the Clerk called the Council to order, moved by Dr. Boulter, seconded by K. G. F. Wood, Esq., be Warden for the current year.

Carried unanimously.

The Warden then subscribed to the new declaration, and took his seat, and all applauded the Council for electing him, the Warden named E. W. Hulton, Esq., of the Auditors for the current year.

On motion of Mr. Shea, seconded by D. A. Thomson, Esq., of the Commercial Bank, pointed the other Auditor.

Obtained His Certificate.—Among the gentlemen attending the Military School of Instruction at Toronto, who passed very creditably last examination, on Tuesday, we observe the name of Captain James Richardson, of this village.

He obtained a second class certificate. We believe his intention to try for a "first class," and doubt that he possesses the requisite qualifications to succeed in gaining it.

TEA-MEETING IN MARMORA.—On Tuesday a very pleasant tea-meeting was held in the Hall, Marmora, under the auspices of the ladies of that place, and others, in aid of the funds of the Church of England.

The tea was got up in excellent style. The chairs were supplied by B. Beddome, Esq., and addressed by the Rev. Messrs. Baker, of Stirling, and Smith, of Madoc. The attendance was quite good, including a number of visitors from the town and township of Madoc. About \$80, clear

penes, was realized by the entertainment.

THE LIVING AND THE DEAD.

How great unto the living seem the dead!
How sacred, solemn; how heroic grow:
How vast and vague, as they obscurely tread
The shadowy confines of the dim unknown—
For they have met the monster that we dread,
Have learned the secret not to mortal shown.
Even as gigantic shadows on the wall
The spirit of the daunted child amass,
So on us thoughts of the departed fall,
And with phantasms fill our gloomy gaze.
Awe and deep wonder lend the living lines,
And hope and ecstasy the borrowed beams;
While stilted fancy the full form divines,
And all is what imagination dreams.

AN OLD MAN'S CHRISTMAS TREAT.

(Continued.)

"No, not to-day," he said, at last. "I'm not a fashionable man, you see, Jim; and your wife—never mind about that however. The boys—how are they? And my niece and god-child?"

"My sons are a credit to me," replied James Carr, pressing his white hands together. "Reginald is on the eve of a very eligible alliance. He is about to marry a lady of rank."

"Item! He's fortunate," said Mr. Hugh. "And my pretty little god-daughter, how is she?"

A change came over the elder brother's face; it grew even lower than usual; an expression of solemn gravity drew his lips together as he replied, "You will oblige me by asking no questions concerning her. Indeed, the name is never mentioned amongst us."

"Good heavens, Jim! Not dead!" said Hugh. "Dead to us? Disgraced?" said the father, lowering his voice, as though he thought the walls might have ears and repeat it. "She—it is a painful subject—she married a low fellow; in fact her own drawing master. We did our best, but she found means to elude our vigilance."

A vision rose before Hugh's eyes of a tiny atom in a white frock and pink ribbons; of dainty little feet that perched upon his knee; of laughing blue eyes and fair curls, and a soft little cheek pressed to his own.

"Poor child!" he said. "Poor dear little girl! What has become of her?"

The elder brother made a gesture of annoyance, and his voice grew sharper, as he replied, "I repeat that she is dead to us. She chose her own lot, and must abide by it."

"You don't mean that you have lost sight of her altogether?" said Hugh.

James Carr nodded complacently.

"But the name?" said his brother. "At least you know that?"

"Let me beg of you to drop the subject, Hugh. It is just on the stroke of two. You will stay to luncheon, and make acquaintances with my sons?"

"Thank you; another time," said Hugh; "I want to get back now. Good-bye."

He took the white hand in his once more, and then the supercilious footman showed him out. The man's manner now was scrupulously polite, but Hugh did not notice the change. He was full of thought. That little white frock had come out into the street with him. It danced before his eyes as he looked at the pavement; it shut out the shop-windows and their contents from him, when he raised his head to look into them. Where was she now, this poor little girl, who had been reared in luxury, and abandoned with pitiless indifference to what might be starvation; or that was the way in which he viewed the case; his pet and god-child, as well as his niece. What was he to do? How should he begin to search for her?

"The queerest old gentleman you ever saw, Milly. But it doesn't matter about oddity, does it, when one gets such orders as this?"

"Suppose he never pays, though?"

Walter Levison looked at his wife and laughed, as he replied, "Cautious little woman, you are, eh? He's a nabob, I'm sure; rich enough to buy up—Heigh-ho! I wish I could see my way to moderate competence. Never mind, I got a new pupil to-day, and a new dress for you shall come out of the two pictures."

"When they're done," suggested his wife, nodding. "Exactly," said her husband. "It seems rather odd that a rich old fellow should choose this part to live in. The respectable, certainly, but not grand. There! he's just gone in. Now we shall see him come to the window; he always does that the first thing. Want to see him, little woman?"

Milly shook her head. She was busy; but she asked, "What's his name, Walter?"

"Carr," he replied. "I say, Milly, perhaps he's a relation."

"I dare say," said Milly, laughing. "Couldn't you persuade him that he is?"

"I wish I could, and get him to adopt you," said her husband. "Tis all very well to joke about it. I could bear pinching for myself; but when I think about you, and—everything—'tis so sad talking; but a fellow can't help getting awfully down-hearted."

"Now I shall have to scold in downright earnest," said Milly. "Is anything hard, Walter,—can anything be hard while we have each other?"

"My brave little wife—no," he replied. "But Walter's voice was not quite firm for all that; and Milly, busy as she was, laid aside her work, went up to him, and put her arms round his neck."

I don't know whether Mr. Carr saw this. Perhaps he did, for though the Venetian blind was down over the artist's window, it was in too shattered a condition to shut out much. Whether he saw it or not, he let fall the curtain which he had raised to look out, and went up hastily to his seat by the fire. And again there came up before him the white frock and pink ribbons; childish blue eyes looked up into his own; childish fingers played with his hair—not iron-grey then, not scanty—and childish lips touched his own with loving kisses.

"Poor child!" said Mr. Carr again. "Poor dear little girl! I wonder if he could make a picture of her from my description. He has only got to fancy his wife—"

"Here the old man rose up from his chair in sudden agitation. Why did the painter's wife occur to him so strangely in conjunction with that other little figure? Could it be possible, or was he only a silly old man building castles of cobwebs? He walked about a little, thinking, with a changing face; he lifted the curtains once more, but let it fall again quickly. He was troubled and excited, and could not rest.

"I'll see," he said. "I must find out from his talk. 'Tis too good to be true, though, and I'm a dreaming simpleton. Never mind—no one will know but myself."

Mr. Carr stood with the young painter, seemingly looking at the windows of an old book shop, where they met occasionally, and the old man was looking very much in earnest, but his earnestness had nothing to do with the old books.

"Then you think you could manage it for me, eh?"

"Well," replied the painter, "I would do my best. As to its being a likeness, you know—"

"Yes, yes, I know. Of course you can't promise that," said Mr. Carr. "But now, look here. Your wife—I have seen but little of her yet, but I hope to know her better. She is fair, I think—blonde, as people call it."

The artist made a gesture of puzzled assent.

"With blue eyes," continued Mr. Carr. "Well, can't you make her a child again? You know what I mean. Imagine what she must have been as a child, and paint that. 'Tis an old man's whim, you know. Mrs. Levison would not object to sit to you."

Walter laughed quietly at the idea of his wife's objections to any request of his. "Yes," said he, "Milly would sit to me." There was, or Walter fancied it, a sudden contraction of the old man's forehead as he spoke, and he added, hastily, "Don't think me lukewarm about it, Mr. Carr. I'll do my best."

"Yes; thanks," said Mr. Carr. "What did you say your wife's name is? Milly—short for Amelia, perhaps?"

"No, Millicent," replied Walter. "Ah, 'tis a name that—that is, some one very dear to me bore that name; but it is many years since I lost her."

Walter's ready sympathy woke up at once. This, then, was the secret of the old man's loneliness. He, grey-haired and sorrowful, and dejected, had still some quiet corner in his heart wherein was locked away that story the passionate sadness of which cries out so loudly to the young, and bids them in their joy be tender to sufferings whose shadow has not yet touched themselves. This man had loved some dead Milly, as fair perhaps, thought Walter, as his own. Mr. Carr might even have been married; it was a question the painter could not ask. He only lowered his voice a little, and spoke with an instinctive perception that the old man would like him to go on.

"My wife was always called Millicent at home, but I rarely call her so. Before we were married her name was the same as yours, Mr. Carr."

"Yes, it is a common name."

Mr. Carr said this in a breathless sort of way, which would have struck his companion at another time; but Walter's thoughts were preoccupied. The subject touched that sore place in his heart, which hurt him from time to time with the thought of the poverty to which he had brought this wife. Mr. Carr's interest in him had been so real and uncon-

cealed that Walter felt inclined to be common, and he blurted out his next sentence with a mixture of frankness and pride.

"Common enough alone, perhaps; but my family add to it. They are the Morville-Carrs, better, isn't it?" said the young man, with an smile. "The fact is, I—we did what I'm afraid would think wrong, Mr. Carr. We just fell and got married, and the Morville-Carrs have I know that Milly grieves about it sometimes then I feel that I was selfish; but still, you love each other, and—"

Walter stopped suddenly. Mr. Carr had away from his arm, and scarcely seemed to tending.

"Yes," said the old gentleman, hurriedly don't blame you. But you'll excuse me not getting late. Good night."

Mr. Carr walked off quickly, leaving the half angry, half amused at the way in which his fidelity had been received.

"What a fool I was to prate about my affairs! I loquuted the painter; 'as if he would care to about them! I darsay his Milly was a sister all, and he never had a wife. Well, now for the whim of his."

(To be concluded next week.)

VARIETIES.

Why is the Chinese language like an English?—Because it is composed of such queer characters.

Why is a solar eclipse like a parent whipping boy?—Because 'tis a hiding of the sun.

Mrs. Partington is of opinion that Mount Ves should take sarsaparilla to cure itself of eruptions.

A lady in Germany lately gave birth to four daughters at once. Her husband fled.

A Boston powder company has built a church for its workmen, and blows them up if they don't attend.

He is happy whose circumstances suit his temper, but he is more so who can suit his temper to circumstances.

How few are our real wants, and how easy it is to satisfy them; our imaginary ones are boundless and insatiable.

An Armstrong 12-pounder breech-loader was fired at Shoeburyness 100 times in 18 minutes—seconds—the most rapid artillery fire on record is nearly eight rounds a minute, and it was calculated on the ground that four shots were often in the same time.

It is estimated that the Northern States of the American Republic still contain upwards of six hundred and thirty-five thousand young men, who are all fit to be made soldiers.

An old actor, Louis Kramer, has just died at the age of a singular way. He was playing King Lear, and in his excitement swallowed a portion of his artificial beard, which stuck in his windpipe and choked him.

"Ah, Mr. Simpkins, we have not chairs enough for our company," said a gay wife to her frugal husband. "Plenty of chairs, my dear, but a little too much company," replied he.

An Irish ripper, who now and then indulges in a glass too much, was accosted by a gentleman with—"Pat, what makes your face so red?" "Pat, your honour," said Pat, "I always blush when I spakes to a gentleman."

A Dutchman residing at Colesberg, in the Orange Colony, says he can tame ostriches and keep them like poultry, and has actually bred seventeen. He wants about ten acres of grazing land apiece, but a bird yields twenty-four feathers every six months worth, with the smaller feathers, about £12 10s. £25 a year.

A young man very much smitten—right into the core of his heart—by a beautiful young lady is about to marry, resolved to give her a remarkable proof of his disinterestedness and affection. The lady had a bad tooth, which was to be taken out certain morning. The youth had heard as that a sound tooth taken out of the head of any person might be re-inserted at once in another's with a fair chance of planting itself and becoming a fixture. He went to the dentist in the morning, a lady was announced immediately after his name. He explained his wish to the dentist. The tooth was drawn and transplanted, and he begged to be introduced to the lady, when, behold, it was a strange, an elderly and not a pretty matron, though a good one to the generous and disinterested youth.